# **PORTFOLIO OF COMPOSITIONS**

# **DOROTHY GATES**

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### 2. Abstract

# **Portfolio of Compositions**

# Summary of portfolio

This *Portfolio of Compositions* consists of six works diverse in style and genre. It represents a journey of exploration through the traditional music of various cultures, imbruing those distinctive flavours of tone, colour and rhythm into my own approach and sound world.

#### 1. Another World

A three movement work for brass quintet with its basis found in fragments of an original melody, *Eternal God* written by the late Leslie Condon. It is further influenced by my fascination with musical impressionism and minimalism. The piece explores the sonorities of the brass instruments as well as the technical capabilities of the players.

#### 2. Hope

A major work for brass band in three movements exploring the colours of Middle Eastern music through the genre of brass and percussion. The piece is programmatic essentially, reflecting on the nature of war and the plight of the *innocents* caught up in war. It was premiered by the *New York Staff Band* of *The Salvation Army* at the *Queen Elizabeth Hall*, London in January 2010.

#### 3. Soul Origin

A work for trombone quartet and brass band uncovering the many textural possibilities of the combined ensembles, the lyricism of the trombone and technical dexterity of the soloists. The style finds its origin in Latin rhythms and jazz with the main body of the piece being a bossa nova. It was written for *Bones* 

Apart at the request of the Enfield Band of The Salvation Army and was premiered in October 2009 at St. John's Smith Square, London.

## 4. Unseen Things – Song Cycle

The three songs that comprise this song cycle are poems written by the British poet Fay Inchfawn.

- l Child-Soul
- II The Flight of the Fairies
- III The Home Lights

The music is scored for mezzo-soprano, piano and string orchestra. Highly descriptive, it explores the sonorities and textures available within the ensemble; and the relationship of the music to the text.

#### 5. Soul Reflections

This is a major work for wind band in three movements finding its origin in the poetry of Jalal al-Din Rumi, a 13<sup>th</sup> century Persian mystic. The music follows the themes of the poems very closely and delves into the combined sound palette of wood winds and brass.

- I The Creek & the Stars
- II The Silent Articulation of a Face
- III Cup & Ocean

#### 6. The Salvation Army Lass

This extended work for brass band and piano, is a film score, written to accompany the American silent movie, *The Salvation Army Lass (1909)*. The score seeks to reflect the action on the screen. It represents a journey through style, orchestration and theme development within the constraints of film.

# 3. Acknowledgements

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I would like to thank my husband Mark for his love and dedication to helping me throughout my research and always.

I would like to thank Bandmaster Ronald Waiksnoris for being an advocate; for his endless supply of encouragement; and for his willingness to conduct and record anything I write, even above and beyond the world of brass.

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Finally, I would like to thank my Mum and Dad. Thank you for your love and mentorship throughout my life, musically and spiritually.

# 4. Biographical Background

My earliest recollection of music is the Salvation Army brass band. Mum and Dad were both Salvation Army officers (ministers) so they shared a rich diet of Salvation Army choral and brass music with me. In addition, they shared their faith with me and so I was very aware of my spirit from a young age. I learnt early on that music in the church instilled a connection to faith.

My father played trombone and had an eclectic taste for all things musical. He loved theology and as such, most of his favourite classical pieces of music were deeply religious, *Belshazzar's Feast*<sup>1</sup>, *Messiah*<sup>2</sup>, and *Elijah*<sup>3</sup>. Mum was a phenomenal pianist, having received her LRAM at age 18. She was the Salvation Army equivalent of the church organist, a corps (church) pianist. I always found mum's harmonies vibrant, engaging, and slightly chromatic in nature.

It was in this environment that I began to formulate my own tapestry of musical taste. I learnt to play trombone at The Salvation Army. As I began to develop musically, Mum and Dad took me to the City of Belfast School of Music to enroll as an evening student. There, I had weekly private trombone lessons, ear training classes, theory classes and a group activity. At age ten, the Training Orchestra with its wide array of slowly developing string players and faster developing woodwind and brass players was a new, intriguing sound palette for my young ears.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> William Walton, Belshazzar's Feast, Oxford University Press, 1931

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> George Frederick Handel, Messiah, London: Randall & Abell, 1767

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Felix Mendelssohn, Elijah Oratorio Op.70, Novello and Co. Ltd., London: New Edition, 1903

In 1979 I joined the City of Belfast Youth Orchestra under the baton of Leonard Pugh. My seven year involvement with this group was probably the most influential on my life, shaping my appreciation and love of music. It gave me an opportunity to experience large scale works for orchestra and the chance to immerse myself in rich sonorities and harmonies to the point where I felt they were a part of me. Playing *Ritual Dances*<sup>4</sup> under the direction of Sir Michael Tippett had a lasting impression on me as a young composer. It fueled my desire to write music and create my own sound world. When asked about his function as a composer, Tippett replied:

My true function within a society which embraces all of us is to continue an age-old tradition. This tradition is to create images from the depths of the imagination and to give them form, whether visual, intellectual or musical. (Sir Michael Tippett)<sup>5</sup>

My first encounter with jazz was with the Stage Band that was attached to the City of Belfast Youth Orchestra. Under the direction of a dedicated man, Arthur Acheson, we learnt not only to swing, but also to love jazz. I know this idiom has had a strong influence on my writing. It's intriguing harmonic palette and funky swung syncopations continue to fascinate me.

There are two more threads of the eclectic tapestry of my compositional make-up to discuss. I studied Composition at Queens University Belfast with South African composer Kevin Volans. Kevin was a former student and Teaching Assistant

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Sir Michael Tippett, Ritual Dances from the Opera The Midsummer Marriage, Schott & Co. Ltd., London, 1953

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> David Peat, An Interview with Sir Michael Tippett, http://www.fdavidpeat.com/interviews/tippett.htm., June 1996

of Karlheinz Stockhausen. He introduced me to his favourite composer, Igor Stravinsky and music of the Avant-garde. While studying with him I developed an intense fascination for rhythm. I like to do with rhythm what Monet did with colour to the point where meter and time become obscure. Monet painted without lines, melting colours and textures together to create an impression of an object. I like to play with the aural perception of rhythm by removing the auditory meter and creating a sense of formlessness within a written meter.

Kevin had a mantra; you can never repeat a success.

Music should involve truth, because I don't see that there's any point to writing any more music, per se, because there's plenty of good music to suffice. And there's no point in writing any music that is therefore not a contribution to the body of music that has already been written. And contribution by definition has to be original; it has to be involved with truth.

(Volans 1989e)<sup>6</sup>.

I made a pact with myself to never repeat a success and this is how I write to this day, leaving a project finished and forgotten before moving on to something completely different.

The final thread of my personal compositional tapestry is the influence of American music on my own sound world. Jazz was my first encounter with American harmony meaning, music influenced by the blues, melodic blue notes (flattened 3<sup>rd</sup>,

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Timothy D. Taylor, The String Quartets of Kevin Volans, PhD diss., Queens University Belfast, 1989

5<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>); and harmonic blue chords (7<sup>th</sup> chords). The Salvation Army offered a second encounter. Composers such as William Himes, James Curnow and Bruce Broughton were published within The Salvation Army brass band and choral publications, and were programmed on a regular basis at my corps (church). All of these composers have elements of jazz, Copland, Bernstein, and American popular music in their language.

The music of Ferde Grofé and William Bolcom offered yet another encounter with America and its music. The *Grand Canyon Suite*<sup>7</sup> of Ferde Grofé evokes an auditory perception of the Grand Canyon creating spaciousness in sound that I had never encountered before. The *Graceful Ghost Rag*<sup>8</sup> of William Bolcom, deepened my awareness of classic American popular music, specifically the language of ragtime. I found myself drawn to the colourful harmonic language and interesting rhythms evident in all these encounters.

In 1988, my final year at Queens University, I was awarded an exchange scholarship to attend the University of Michigan and study composition and trombone performance. This was an exciting time of learning both musically and culturally.

I received my MMus in Trombone Performance at the University of Michigan in 1992. Since then I have worked as a performer, teacher, arranger and composer.

Currently I work as the Music Editor and Composer-in-Residence for the New York

Staff Band of The Salvation Army. In this capacity, my writing has flourished and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Ferde Grofé, Grand Canyon Suite, Cincinnati Pops Orchestra & Erich Kunzel, Telarc, 1987

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> William Bolcom, Graceful Ghost Rag, William Bolcom: Complete Rags, Albany Records, 1998

developed with the changing demands placed on me by my employer. I have many pieces of music published with The Salvation Army, and many of these pieces have been included on recordings with groups from around the world.

My compositional language and approach is richer for all these experiences however, these alone do not define my approach. The material must have a deep connection for me. Writing for me, is an extension of inner expression, not just a mathematical exercise. The connection alone sparks the mind and the thoughts produced fan into creativity. I am quite sure this phenomenon developed within me as a young child in The Salvation Army. The connection of faith and music has always been strong and is something I continue to try to express. In addition, the joy I experienced in my encounters with jazz is something I try to imbrue in each of my compositions. It is my hope that the works I produce will not only reflect my eclectic taste, but also instill a deep awareness or connection with the Divine.

# 5. Introduction

I have produced a portfolio that is diverse in nature yet organic in concept by exploring the music of different cultures and injecting those distinctive flavours of tone, colour and rhythm into my own approach and sound world. The journey I chose to take throughout my research has broadened my perspective and ignited my imagination and creativity. In addition I have actively sought to work with professional musicians that would enhance my growth as a composer.

Hallé Brass premiered the last movement of the brass quintet, Another World at their Christmas concert at Peel Hall in the University of Salford in December 2008.

This was a fantastic experience for me to work with them. The piece was created using techniques associated with Seralism, yet within a tonal environment.

Hope gave me the opportunity to work directly with the New York Staff Band of The Salvation Army conducted by Bandmaster Ronald Waiksnoris. This piece has a strong Middle Eastern flavour and I found researching the sound world most intriguing. It invigorated my harmonic and rhythmic palette.

During my research I received a commission from the Enfield Band of The Salvation Army. The brief was to write a piece for trombone quartet and brass band for their pre-contest concert in October 2009. Special guests for the occasion were, *Bones Apart*, a well-known professional trombone quartet. Included in the brief was the expectation to create something challenging for the group that would show off their tremendous skill, as well as providing something new for the band's repertoire. *Soul Origin* is an eclectic mix of styles, drawing on my Irish roots, but also exploring

the intoxication of Latin rhythms. It gave me the opportunity to write in depth for the instrument I play and love.

The song cycle, *Unseen Things* took me on a slightly different journey.

Written for string orchestra, piano and solo mezzo-soprano, this piece forced me out of my comfort zone of brass. The author, Fay Inchfawn is British and some of her poetry has a strong feeling of rural Britain. The third song in the cycle is one such song, and so I was led to the writings of Ralph Vaughan Williams to understand what defines that very English sound. I was fortunate to have the *White House Strings* with soloist, Debbie Bearchell record the first song and the other two songs were recorded by session musicians in New York with soloist, Christine Howlett.

Soul Reflections enabled me to manipulate a larger palette of colour and texture as this piece is scored for wind band. Influenced by the poetry of Jalal al-Din Rumi, a 13<sup>th</sup> century Persian mystic, I chose poems that spoke to all my senses, allowing for the possibility of greater creativity. I set out to describe the poems musically, submitting to the text to influence my compositional process. The sound world of this piece reflects my Irish roots and my fascination with rhythm.

Being influenced by Joseph Turrin's score to the silent movie, *Sadie*Thompson<sup>9</sup>, I embarked on a research trip to Washington, D.C. to the Library of

Congress to locate a silent movie about The Salvation Army. *The Salvation Army Lass*is the culmination of painstaking research. The film itself was produced in 1909 and

is very American in nature. My score reflects that with the inclusion of an original

piano rag and reminisces of the big screen with Elfman-esque moments.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Joseph Turrin, Sadie Thompson, Kino International Corp., 1987

## 6. Another World

Another World is a brass quintet in three movements. It explores the technical and textural possibilities of a brass quintet. The melodic and harmonic language is based on the whole tone scale. The three movements follow a non-traditional pattern of fast, fast, faster. It is the material within, not the tempo, which distinguishes the individual character of each movement.

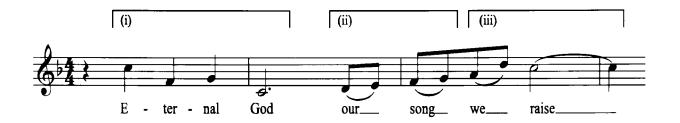
- 1 Allegro J = 120
- II Presto e legato → = 240
- III Allegro 1 = 284

Movement I is an interplay of compound and duple meter displaying a frantic and aggressive nature with moments of forced lyricism. Movement II is fast yet completely lyrical and soft, with only one moment of real unrest. It is essentially a waltz with a trance-like ostinato. The long sustained melody suspended above gives the illusion of a slower tempo and so almost has the feeling of a slow movement. Movement III is very fast and dramatic. It is solely developed around the idea of rhythmic tension. There are moments where the meter is either obscured completely or unstable and jittery at best.

Growing up playing music in The Salvation Army gave me the opportunity to sing and play works by great Salvation Army composers. Leslie Condon is one such composer. The material throughout the quintet is derived from a fragment of a

theme by the late Leslie Condon. The opening three bars of his song, A Song of Praise<sup>1</sup> (Example 1.1).

#### Example 1.1



Everything from melodic ideas to accompaniment figures finds their origin in these three bars. The fragment is further split up into three smaller fragments as labeled. I changed fragment ii into a whole tone scale of five notes.

There are many occasions when generating material for my pieces becomes a serial game. While not completely interested in creating a serial sounding score, I am very interested in serial techniques with all their colourful possibilities, with regards to creating themes and ideas. Consequently I can spend hours writing out fragments of themes in all their variables of Prime, Retrograde, Prime Inversion, and Retrograde Inversion, creating yet more possibilities by combining these fragments into melodies. I never combine them harmonically but of course it is fun to generate material and this can be a helpful tool when inspiration seems to be elusive. At some point the question of what to do with all the material generated, must be answered and so construction begins.

The quintet opens with a flourish of descending chromatic scales and

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Leslie Condon, A Song of Praise, The Musical Salvationist, Salvationist Publishing & Supplies Ltd., London, July 1965

ascending whole tone scales leading into a barrage of repeated sixteenth notes in major seconds. This slightly aggressive music from b.6-14 although written in 2/4 is aurally devoid of meter and time. The repeated sixteenth notes are punctuated once or twice by short descending and ascending chromatic scales. One of the melodic intervals in the first four notes of the theme fragment is a major  $2^{nd}$ . This becomes the harmony between the two trumpets (Example 1.2).

### Example 1.2



Bar 17 is based on a combination of a rising whole tone scale (ii) and the

opening four notes of the theme (i). This is passed around the ensemble in a seamless manner. The end of the answering phrase in the trombone in bar 20 (Example 1.3), is actually I.11 (Inversion 11) of the last bar of the theme.

### Example 1.3



Bars 24 – 27 show how the theme (P2) is combined with a retrograde statement (R2) to create a new thought (Example 1.4). The last note of P2 and the first note of R2 are the same note and so this becomes a musical mirror (indicated in red).

#### Example 1.4



Bars 27 – 30 show how the theme (P2) and retrograde of the theme (R2) are

combined to create counterpoint and dialogue between the 2nd Trumpet and Horn.

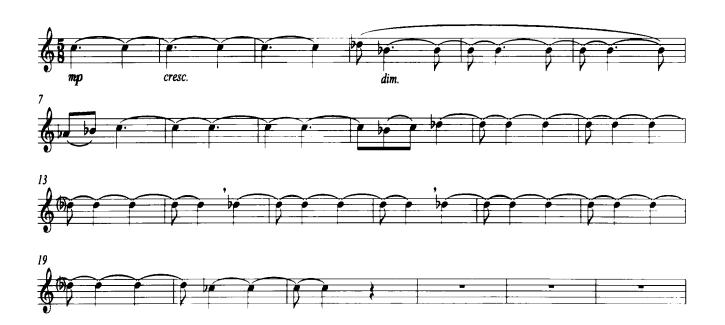
However, because of the nature of the Prime it could equally be a Prime Inversion of the theme.

In bar 31 the theme is in unison but with additional notes added and adjusted rhythmically to a simple triple feel within the compound times of 6/8 and 7/8. Bar 37 sees the theme in diminution combined with the whole tone scale fragment.

There is a recapitulation of sorts at bar 47 with the material down a minor 6<sup>th</sup>.

The second movement creates the illusion of a slow movement by the long, sustained melody in the 1<sup>st</sup> Trumpet (Example 1.5).

#### Example 1.5



This melody is suspended above a gentle undulating accompaniment in 5/8. The accompaniment figure finds its origin in Leslie Condon's theme, being loosely based on the octave span of the opening four notes, but omitting the interval of the major

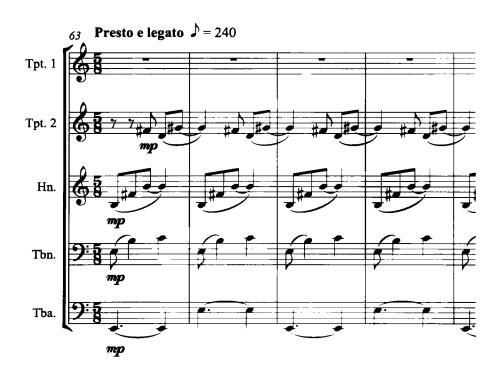
2<sup>nd</sup>. The adjusted theme becomes a falling 5<sup>th</sup> and a falling 4<sup>th</sup>. This is inverted for my accompaniment figure and becomes a rising 5<sup>th</sup> and rising 4<sup>th</sup> (Example 1.6).

## Example 1.6



The accompaniment figure is treated as a bell-like figure with each note played being sustained (Example 1.7).

## Example 1.7



The harmony is a constant E minor with hints of E major occasionally. Starting in b.82 there is the beginning of a tonal shift to  $F^{\sharp}$  minor (II<sup>7</sup>c or  $F^{\sharp}m^{7}/C$ ) in b.87 six bars later. This is only a major  $2^{nd}$  up from the opening tonal centre of E. This relationship of a major  $2^{nd}$  is relevant to the theme itself.

After a General Pause at b.89 the piece takes off again at b.90 with a return to the opening material – the undulating five note accompaniment. It continues in the same manner as the opening with the long, sustained solo trumpet suspended above the accompaniment. At b.105 there is a more determined attempt at a tonal shift. It is slightly longer and ventures further away from E minor, arriving at D minor (VII<sup>9</sup> b or Dm<sup>9</sup>/F) in bar 112. This is only a major 2<sup>nd</sup> down from the opening tonal centre of E (- again this relationship of the major 2<sup>nd</sup> affecting the structure of the movement).

However, after another General Pause at b.114 the piece continues unwaveringly in E minor with a return to the opening material. It comes to an end in b.121 in E major but without the root - there is no need to reiterate it.

Movement III opens with a fanfare based on the intervals of a 5<sup>th</sup> and a 2<sup>nd</sup>, still using material derived from the very basics of Leslie Condon's theme (Example 1.8).



On looking at the fanfare it may appear to some to be complicated with its alternating 4/4 and 7/8 meter. To others it may only appear complicated on the surface as the essence appears to be a 3/8 fragment repeated over and over. So why not notate it in 3/8? I chose not to so that I could create a sense of formlessness within meter. Monet and the Impressionists, painted without line. Debussy melted harmonies and tonal colours together in the way Monet handled colour.

For me, aural meter and pulse is that artistic line that holds musical thoughts together and defines them. Take the meter away or blur it in some way and you are left with the raw thoughts and maybe a feeling of instability or formlessness.

Suggesting an aural meter and creating a false sense of security for the listener is easily done. Accenting the first of every three eighth notes draws the listener and maybe even the player into a web of deceit of the familiar. However by b.125 it is almost impossible to continue to use your ear to define the meter. This was my ultimate goal.

Rhythm and meter have always been intriguing to me ever since studying with Kevin Volans. Here is what he has to say about formlessness and repetition:

The whole thing about repetition, repeating ideas is that you don't bring them back for a sense of proportion; there's no sense of proportion to bring back. You bring them back because they occur to you. But it doesn't have a balancing feeling. You don't do it because it should balance one thing and another (Volans 1989e) <sup>2</sup>

Igor Stravinsky also used this technique of blurring the lines of aural meter. In his first movement of *Three Pieces for String Quartet*<sup>3</sup> (1914) the basic melody is repeated four and a half times and each time the melody is heard the accents are different (Example 1.9).

#### Example 1.9

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Timothy D. Taylor, The String Quartets of Kevin Volans, PhD diss., Queens University Belfast, 1989

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Igor Stravinsky, Three Pieces for String Quartet, Berlin: Edition Russe de Musique, 1922



Continuing on at b.128 the quintet returns to the stability and comfort of aural meter – in this case 6/8 – with a strong sense of two. The melody appears at b.130 in  $1^{st}$  Trumpet and is treated contrapuntally with  $2^{nd}$  Trumpet (Example 1.10). This is the first of four different melodies that are expressed in this movement.

## Example 1.10



trombone and tuba continue with the theme with 1<sup>st</sup> trumpet taking over at b.139 leading everyone with contrary motion scales to the climax at b.143 a sustained  $D^bm^7$  chord.

In b.145 the tuba goes on a musical journey with an ostinato of three notes (Example 1.11):

#### Example 1.11



The difficulty in playing the quintet at this juncture is found in the thought that the tuba ostinato is consistent in meter and something to be grasped aurally. This is entirely false. The only elements of consistency about the ostinato are the pitches themselves, not their meter. So it is best for the rest of the ensemble to ignore the tuba and cling to the rhythmic certainty of their part (Example 1.12). The tuba unfortunately is alone, exploring a world of formlessness within meter.



A second theme is introduced at b.146. It is loosely derived from the interval of a major 2<sup>nd</sup> found in Leslie Condon's theme. At b.152 there is another moment of rhythmic obscurity and tension. This tension is released in b.155 with a sustained B<sup>b</sup> major<sup>9</sup> chord before returning to the opening.

A third theme is introduced at b.158 (Example 1.13), based on the intervals of a  $5^{th}$  and a  $2^{nd}$ . It is harmonized by 4ths in the  $2^{nd}$  trumpet and accompanied by a counter melody of falling 2nds in the horn.



What follows is an in-depth development of this theme and its counter theme. At b.196 there is a return to the first melody with a new counter melody added in the tuba (Example 1.14), which is interrupted by two strident yet persistent chords built on 4ths.



This happens three times, each time louder than the previous and each time followed by manic scalic patterns. Bar 210 is not a resolution but a continual move towards even more tension in the form of G minor. Finally, resolution comes at b.218 in the form of G major and a very tonal version of another new theme, but still based on 5ths (Example 1.15).

Example 1.15



Bar 231 returns to the instability of the opening, (Example 1.16). The material is slightly different but the treatment of the material is similar.

## Example 1.16



Bar 235 is a coda using melodic material from b.183 and continuing to build the rhythmical tension in the accompaniment and using rhythmic techniques seen earlier in the piece. At b.241 a hint of the opening fanfare leads to G major<sup>2</sup> chords and contrary motion scales, with the piece finally coming to rest in G major.

# 7. Hope

Hope is a large scale work for brass band. It is a three movement work that is through-composed. Each movement is subtitled as follows:

- I Conflict b.1-135
- II Despair b.136-194
- III Hope b.195-317

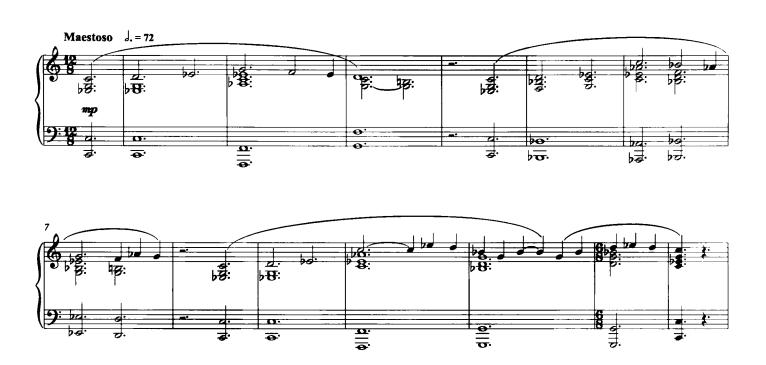
The main inspiration for *Hope* came from a series of world events in 2006 – Israel's invasion of Lebanon, the wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, the Darfur crisis and the ongoing assault on Gaza and the West Bank. In November of that year seven Palestinian children were killed. The sheer horror and despair I felt as I watched the images of seven little coffins being carried through the streets led to two questions that continue to haunt me to this day: 1, why are some children born into horrific circumstances?, and 2, what is my response to this injustice as a Christian? Answering these questions took me on an odyssey of faith that I have tried to portray in music, through the sonority of the brass band.

World events were the inspiration behind the piece; however it was the images depicted on television and the internet that moved me to respond in horror and despair. I was obsessed with the images. They were grotesque. But I could not stop looking at them or indeed experiencing for myself the pain depicted in the pictures.

I decided to write a majestic theme encapsulating what hope means for me.

This became the *Hope* theme, (Example 2.1), and were the first notes I wrote for the piece:

#### Example 2.1



During this time of research I read books about real life stories of hope amidst war, such as, A Long Way Gone Memoirs of a Boy Soldier<sup>4</sup> by Ishmael Beah; Three Cups of Tea<sup>5</sup> by Greg Moretenson & David Oliver Relin; and The Cellist of Sarajevo<sup>6</sup> by Steven Galloway. The latter is a work of fiction; however it is based on a real person, Vedran Smailović, a cellist from Bosnia Herzegovina known as the "cellist of Sarajevo." He is known for playing Tomaso Albinoni's (1671-1751) Adagio in G minor<sup>7</sup> amidst the destruction during the siege.

These books helped to cement the thoughts of hope I wished to express in the piece. However, there was one major challenge in writing *Hope*, how to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Ishmael Beah, A Long Way Gone Memoirs of a Boy Soldier, Sarah Crichton Books, Farrar, Straus and Giroux. 2007

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Greg Mortenson & David Oliver Relin, Three Cups of Tea, Penguin Paperback 2007

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Steven Galloway, The Cellist of Sarajevo, Riverhead Books a member of Penguin Group USA Inc., New York, 2008

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Tomaso Albinoni, Adagio in G minor, attributed to Albinoni but written by Reno Giazotto, 1910-1998

incorporate the sounds of the Middle East into a score for brass band. To help answer this question I turned to film, documentaries and the internet. I watched the films, Hotel Rwanda<sup>8</sup> (2004) and Black Hawk Down<sup>9</sup> (2001). The music for Hotel Rwanda was composed by Rupert Gregson-Williams (b.1966 England); Andrea Guerra (b.1961 Italy); and the Afro Celt Sound System. Music for the latter film, Black Hawk Down, was composed by Hans Zimmer (b.1957 Germany) and Lisa Gerrard (b.1961 Australia). I listened to these soundtracks to hear how these composers answered the question of incorporating ethnic music in their scores.

The movies and soundtracks were enlightening; however I was very aware these were Hollywood depictions of ethnic music. I turned to the ethnic music of the Palestinians to further answer the question and discovered a documentary entitled, *Peace, Propaganda and the Promised Land*<sup>10</sup> (2004) that had an ethnic Palestinian soundtrack. This documentary proved the most helpful in understanding the sound world of the Middle East.

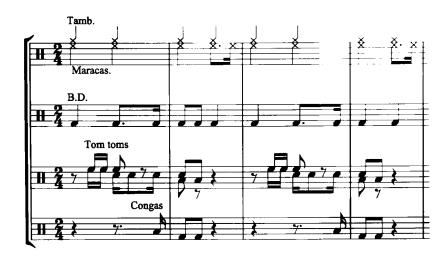
The music for the opening credits of the documentary is mostly percussion and it created a real sense of ethnicity in the music. I thought if I could understand the rhythms and textures I might be able to recreate that same sense of ethnicity within the piece (Example 2.2).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Rupert Gregson-Williams & Andrea Guerra & Afro Celt Sound System, Hotel Rwanda, MGM/United Artists Lions Gate Films, 2004

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Hans Zimmer and Lisa Gerrard, Black Hawk Down, Columbia Pictures, 2001

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> The Media Education Foundation, Peace Propaganda & the Promised Land U.S. Media & the Israeli-Palestinian Conflict, MEF, 2004

#### Example 2.2



One of the instruments I heard sounded like a drum and a tambourine combined. After some research I discovered this was a doumbek. In some doumbek's, there are cymbals inside the shell that jingle when the drum is struck. For practical purposes I chose to write for the bass drum and sleigh bells (Example 2.3). The sleigh bells gave more of the jingle sound I wanted to recreate, more so than a tambourine.

Example 2.3



A melody in Arabic music is called a  $maq\bar{a}m^{11}$ , the system of melodic modes used in traditional Arabic music. The notes of a  $maq\bar{a}m$  are not of equal

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Maren Lueg, Modernisation & Westernisation of Music in Egypt, http://www.arabimusicband.com/articles/modernisation-and-westernisation-of-music-in-egypt, 2010

temperament. However one of the main aims of the 1932 Congress of Arab Music, was the standardization of Arabic  $maq\bar{a}m\bar{a}t^{12}$  (plural of  $maq\bar{a}m$ ) and the systematic organization of the same according to Western-tempered scale modes. And so, the Arabic scale today in theory, is a chromatic scale divided into 24 equal quarter tones. In practice, it still contains microtones that cannot be measured or notated by western standards. The only instrument with the capability to produce quarter tones and microtones within the brass band is the trombone. So initially I set about writing a trombone solo in a Middle Eastern style.

The opening four notes of a *maqām* form a *jins*, a small set of consecutive notes that convey melody and mood. There are nine basic *ajnas* (plural of *jins*). The *jins* I chose to open the solo with is called *Hijaz* (translated as evoking the emotion of distant desert). It is a tetrachord consisting of the notes D,  $E^{\flat}$ ,  $F^{\sharp}$ , G. I took these intervals and transposed them up a tone (Example 2.4). This forms the basis of the solo.

Example 2.4

Lento J = 72

Jins - Hijaz

7

gliss

gliss

gliss

gliss

cresc.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Maren Lueg, Modernisation & Westernisation of Music in Egypt, http://www.arabicmusicband.com/articles/modernisation-and-westernisation-of-music-in-egypt, 2010

The solo was too long by western standards and doomed. The *New York Staff*Band was going to premier the piece. However shortly after the first reading

session, we lost our principal trombone player, and so it became a horn solo instead

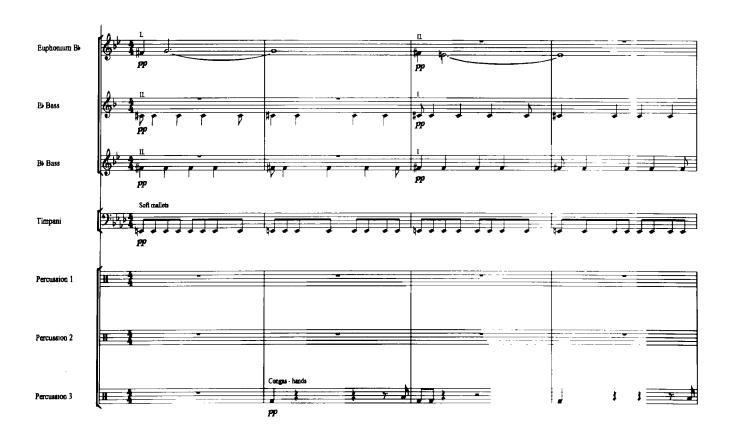
(Example 2.5).

### Example 2.5



With the creation of the solo came the realization and creation of other material. The opening material, (Example 2.6), came into my head based on the opening couple of notes in the solo, over a pedal (or Middle Eastern drone) on E.

### Example 2.6



The interval of a minor 2<sup>nd</sup> is quite ominous sounding and this sets the scene, a night in a desert warzone waiting for the killers to strike.

During the compositional process two Christian children's songs stayed with me and refused to leave, *A Little Star*<sup>13</sup> (Anon.), and *Jesus Loves the Little Children*<sup>14</sup> (words by C. Herbert Woolston 1856 -1927). The original words to the latter melody ironically were words of the American Civil War song, *Tramp, tramp, tramp the boys are marching*<sup>15</sup>.

A lot of the cowardly acts of war are done under cover of darkness and so *A*Little Star, (Example 2.7), seemed perfect for setting an evening scene. The

gentleness of the song itself depicts the innocence of children. I decided to mangle
the theme, (Example 2.8), and distort it with minor 2nds rather than state it, in order
to try to depict the horror of life in a warzone.

Example 2.7



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> Anon., A Little Star, The Salvation Army Chorus Book, Salvationist Publishing & Supplies, Ltd., London, 1945

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> George F. Root, Jesus Loves the Little Children, publisher unknown, year unknown

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>15</sup> George F. Root, Tramp, Tramp, Tramp, Chicago: Root & Cady, 1864



The last two lines of the song are:

The children clasp their hands in prayer

For the love of God is everywhere 16.

I used the line; the children clasp their hands in prayer, as a precursor to a night of shelling, battle and fear (Example 2.9).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> Anon. A Little Star, The Salvation Army Chorus Book, Salvationist Publishing & Supplies, Ltd., London, 1945



The melody is rhythmically altered with ornamentation, (Example 2.10 & 2.11), but can be heard in the cornets over a rich bed of meandering minor 3rds, and a pedal (drone) on D.

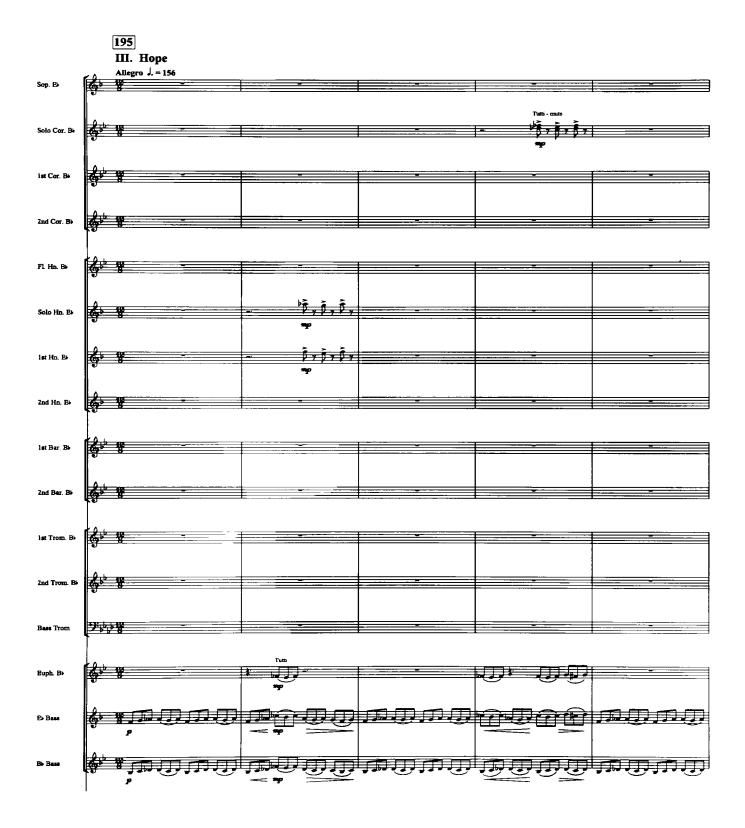




The scene is set for battle to commence, but at this point in my compositional process nothing would come. I had no musical thoughts at all. In fact I had no idea how to begin depicting battle musically, so I was stuck here for a long time. I began

sketching straight into Sibelius 6 in a brass band score, in an attempt to reach my thoughts. What emerged, almost intact, was some battle music, (Example 2.12), not the shelling specifically but other music of an aggressive nature.

Example 2.12



Sketches were starting to accumulate and the piece remained a formless enigma. I had four main sketches in Sibelius fully scored for brass band:

II. Hope II – Allegro 
$$J$$
. = 60 (16 bars)

III. Hope III – Lento 
$$J = 72$$
 (51 bars)

IV. Hope IV – Allegro 
$$J$$
. = 78 (67 bars)

In speaking with composer, Robert Redhead he suggested I go back to the original inspiration, the pictures. I decided to organize the pictures in categories, *The Firestorm of War* (Example 2.13); *Anguish & Pain* (Example 2.14 & 2.15); and *Hope* (Example 2.16). I chose one or two pictures for each category and used them to fuel my creativity.

Example 2.13



Example 2.14



Example 2.15



Example 2.16



After allowing these images to speak to me, and taking into account various conversations with other composers, the structure became apparent:

1	Conflict	-	b.1-57 - sets the scene in the desert
			b.58-134 - the battle scene
II	Despair	-	b.136-194 - mourning
Ш	Норе	-	b.195-263 - the battle scene
			b.264-294 - hope

b.295-end - a Coda expressing hope

There were still challenges and problems to solve. The greatest challenge at this point was the musical depiction of physical warfare, specifically the sound of shelling. The opening of chapter 17 in, *Three Cups of Tea*<sup>17</sup>, gives a breakdown of the sound of shell-fire as heard by a child:

Fatima Batool remembers the first "whump," clearly audible from the Indian artillery battery, just twelve kilometers across the mountains.

She remembers the first shell whistling gracefully as it fell out of the blameless blue sky, and the way she and sister Aamina, working together sowing buckwheat, looked at each other just before the first explosion.

(Mortenson 2007).

 $^{17}$  Greg Mortenson & David Oliver Relin, Three Cups of Tea, Penguin Paperback, 2007

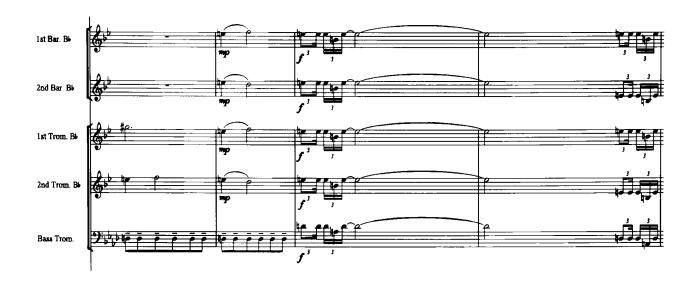
There are three elements of shell-fire as described by Greg Moretenson, the "whump" as the shell is released, the eerie high pitched whistling, and the explosion on contact. This is how I chose to recreate the elements of shell-fire musically, (Example 2.17), through the medium of the brass band and the use of percussion.

- 1. "Whump" as shell is released Timpani and bass drum with wooden mallets beat one of b.58.
- 2. **Eerie high-pitched whistling** high, rapidly descending chromatic scales staggered throughout most of the band, and descending glissandi in trombones.
- 3. The explosion on contact tutti percussion section with long rolls on everything, gong included, with massive crescendos from mezzo forte to fortissimo. There is a single note punctuating the end of the crescendo, this is the explosion.



The battle is announced by a "charge!" motif in the trombones and baritones at b.35 (Example 2.18).

#### Example 2.18



Battle commences in the distance with the sound or the thud of shells being voiced in the bass drum as early as b.34. However, the war machine does not take over the landscape until b.58. At bars 63 – 95 the scurrying triplets are representative of people trying to flee to safety. Inspiration for this came from a segment of Chapter 17 in *Three Cups of Tea*<sup>18</sup>:

Aamina grabbed Fatima's hand, and together, they joined the stampede of panicked villagers, running as fast as their legs could take them, but all too slowly all the same, toward caves where they could escape the sky.

(Mortenson 2007).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Greg Mortenson & David Oliver Relin, Three Cups of Tea, Penguin Paperback, 2007

At b.90 the *jins* is quite literally hammered out over the texture by cornets, trombones, glockenspiel and vibraphone in octaves, and then again in b.93 a fourth higher (Example 2.19).



In b.103 there is an ominous motif, a sequence of two falling augmented fourths. This is scored fortissimo in euphonium and basses and designed to convey fear and terror. At b.109 there is another reference to the "charge!" motif in cornets

and trombones (Example 2.20). This time it takes on the character of the *jins*, by rising a minor 2<sup>nd</sup> at the end of the motif.

## Example 2.20



Screams of terror, (Example 2.21), are depicted in the soprano cornet, flugel horn, horns, basses and eventually the other cornets.

## Example 2.21

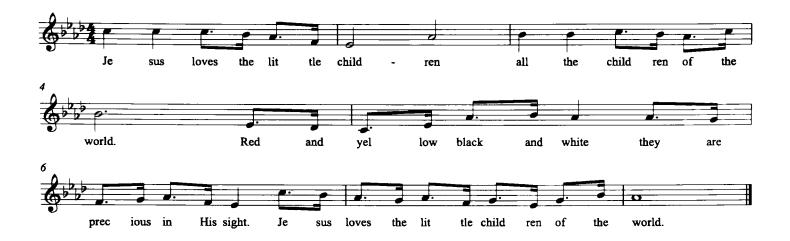


During the battle scene there is a grotesque reference to, *Jesus Loves the*Little Children at b.112 – 114 in the basses (Example 2.22).



The quotation is in the bass section and marked fortissimo. But the texture above it ascends in pitch and urgency and draws the listener away from the basses. Handling the song in such a macabre fashion implies that war itself is sneering at the death and destruction of innocents while enjoying the kill. The battle scene rages on culminating in a ten bar solo for the entire percussion section b.125-134, and represents total annihilation.

From this annihilation, the muted brass emerge, pianissimo, from the brutality of the percussion at b.133 with a quiet stillness, representative of the shock and numbness that follows such an attack. The chord is a D minor chord without the 3<sup>rd</sup>, but with an added 2<sup>nd</sup>. The second movement, entitled *Despair* continues as three individual solos of anguish. These are treated contrapuntally with each other, tuba b.136; solo cornet b.135; and euphonium b.136, with each making their individual comments on the horrible situation. The opening of each solo is a rising minor 3<sup>rd</sup>, the first three notes of the *Hope* theme and the *maqām*. In b.145 a fragment of, *Jesus Loves the Little Children*, (Example 2.23), is presented in a minor mode in muted cornets with staggered entrances (Example 2.24).



Example 2.24



There are five different entrances, each playing the same fragment but each one beat later than the previous entry. This links the previous section with the *Hope* theme, played by flugel horn and continued by solo cornet (Example 2.25).

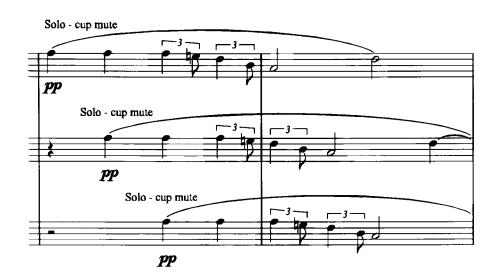
Example 2.25



The trombones take the first three notes of the *Hope* theme and start to develop it into its own entity. These three notes also form the first three notes of

the Arabian  $maq\bar{a}m$ ,  $Nahawand^{19}$  and a minor 3rd. This particular  $maq\bar{a}m$  is a tetrachord starting on C with the notes being C, D,  $E^{\flat}$ , and F. On top of this the cornets inject another staggered fragment of, *Jesus Loves the Little Children* (Example 2.26). This time there are only three entries.

Example 2.26



The trombones continue with the three note *maqām*, only this time up a minor third and with the addition of soprano cornet, and 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> cornets. The modulation up of a minor third adds to the intensity of grief and pain that is being sculpted. There is a little relief in bars 162 – 163, but it is not completely satisfactory. It is a full band quotation of a fragment of the song, *In Christ There Is*No East Nor West<sup>20</sup>, to the tune Westminster, (Example 2.27), split in half and shared between the band, being slightly mangled harmonically with minor 2nds in the horns, (Example 2.28), to heighten a sense of despair. See the original melody:

#### Example 2.27

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Maren Lueg, Modernisation & Westernisation of Music in Egypt, http://www.arabicmusicband.com/articles/modernisation-and-westernisation-of-music-in-egpyt, 2010

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> James Turle (1802-1882), In Christ There is No East Nor West, The Salvation Army Tune Book No.142, Salvationist Publishing & Supplies Ltd., London, 1987





Bar 164 sees a return to a texture reminiscent of the opening of the second movement with multiple solos over sustained chords.

In b.168 multiple duets throughout the band begin to emerge. These are in part a representation of couples mourning the loss of their children:

b.	168-169	_	solo horn & flugel horn
υ.	TOO-TOD	_	SOID HOLLI & HUZELHOLLI

b.169-170 - euphonium & euphoni
---------------------------------

This represents six children. Over these melancholic duets is a muted reminder in the cornets of the tools of war that caused such pain. There is a direct reference to the earlier "shelling" of the first movement, (Example 2.29), descending chromatic scales in 16ths made up of a minor 3<sup>rd</sup> on top of a major 3<sup>rd</sup> on top of a minor 3<sup>rd</sup>. It could be described as an E augmented chord with a flattened 7<sup>th</sup> on top.



The mourning intensifies with the insistent use of the three note *maqām* in the cornets and trombones. The rest of the band adds to the intensity by stirring up the mood with restless triplets. The soprano cornet, solo horn and euphonium are literally wailing with grief on top of this texture (Example 2.30).

#### Example 2.30



Climax is reached on beat three of b.181. It is a desperate, unified cry in the full band – "Why?". There is a sense of release because the question has been asked. However, there is no relief from the pain and grief. Bar 183 continues in the same manner as the opening of the movement, in stillness and shock with the individual soloists still mourning.

The *Make Poverty History*<sup>21</sup> campaign of 2005 informed us that one child dies every three seconds somewhere in the world. Six children "died" in this score, represented by the mourning "parents" in bars 168-176. So starting in b.190 there are six sustained C minor<sup>2</sup> chords with the 3<sup>rd</sup> omitted (Example 2.31). Each chord is

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> Make Poverty History, http://www.makepovertyhistory.org, 2005

three beats. These chords are punctuated with mallet percussion with the chord in the 2<sup>nd</sup> inversion (glockenspiel & vibraphone) and the 3<sup>rd</sup> omitted, and sound rather like the chiming of a clock. Percussion has been *tacet* throughout the second movement until this point and so this is quite poignant entrance. Above these chords, there is another staggered reference to *Jesus Loves the Little Children* in the cornets.



Movement three starts seamlessly out of the uncertainty of movement two, right back into battle in  $A^{\flat}$  minor. At b.195 the scurrying in the basses represents people still fleeing and hiding from harm. The material used in the basses is the magām which is the minor  $3^{rd}$  of the *Hope* theme. There is a recapitulation of battle

scene material from the first movement at b. 203 - 263. Bar 264 begins a new section that heralds the arrival of hope.

Hope is an interesting concept that has been defined as a wish or desire that is accompanied by a confident expectation of its fulfillment. The human ability to hope for something better amidst difficult or even horrific circumstances has always intrigued me. It appears to me that hope does not ever seem to change the circumstance, just our ability to live positively despite adversity.

It is because of this belief; the third movement is still more about the battle than a presentation of hope as a childish fairytale. War still exists. It still destroys, yet people live through it and survive in spite of it. Bar 266 is the first sign of hope in the entire piece (Example 2.32). This figure has always been a rising minor 2<sup>nd</sup> throughout the piece, now it is a rising major 2<sup>nd</sup>.



The piece continues to build in intensity and hope until the victorious presentation of the Hope theme in b.278.

This theme is presented in soprano cornet, horns, and euphonium in a simple duple meter and in C minor – not entirely hopeful yet. The counter melody in the cornets, vibraphone and snare drum is in compound time and reminiscent of the scurrying bass line in the battle music at b.195 and based on the *maqām*. The combination of both meter types creates an interesting texture (Example 2.32).

Example 2.32



The Coda starts at b.295, still in a much more positive mood. In fact by b.299 the music has an incredible celebratory feel to it with its C major sonority. This is in a manner not dissimilar to the last bars of the last movement of *Carmina Burana, XXV. O Fortuna*<sup>22</sup>, by Carl Orff. At b.307 there is a quotation of a small fragment of the song, *In Christ There Is No East Nor West*, pushing through to an exhilarating finish of four bars of a percussion section solo, complete with mallets (glockenspiel and xylophone), accompanied by a sustained C major chord in the full band. With four bars of C major finally the listener is left without any doubt, there is hope!

The hope expressed in this piece is best summed up by the words of American folk singer; John McCutcheon in his song, *In the Streets of Sarajevo*<sup>23</sup>, written in response to the acts of grace lived out in the life of cellist, Vedran Smailović during the Bosnian war:

And everyday he made me wonder

Where did he ever find

The music midst the madness

The courage to be kind

The long forgotten beauty

We thought was blown away

In the streets of Sarajevo everyday

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>22</sup> Carl Orff, XXV. O Fortuna, Carmina Burana, Schott & Co. Ltd., London, 1938

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> John McCutcheon, In the Streets of Sarajevo, Appalsongs (ASCAP), 2001

# 8. Soul Origin

Soul Origin was commissioned by Bandmaster Jonathan Corry of the Enfield Citadel Band of The Salvation Army. The piece is written for Trombone quartet and brass band. Bones Apart, a professional trombone quartet, was to be the guest soloists for the Enfield Band's annual pre-contest festival at St. John's Smith Square, London, Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October 2009. Bandmaster Corry wanted a piece written for the occasion that would combine the two ensembles.

In researching the concept of a small ensemble playing with a large ensemble, I thought of the concerto grosso form from the Baroque era. However, I was not allotted a time frame large enough for a full concerto. This commission would be a one movement work. I turned to the music of American composer, Eric Ewazen (b.1954) and to his work, *Shadowcatcher*<sup>24</sup> (1996), a concerto for brass quintet and wind ensemble.

The second and fourth movements of *Shadowcatcher* were of the greatest inspiration for me. I liked how the second movement, *Among the Aspens*, started with individual soloists within the brass quintet and then merged into the texture of the wind ensemble. The fourth movement, *Dancing to Restore the Eclipsed Moon*, texturally dissolves into nothing at the end of the movement and I liked this effect.

Soul Origin is a one movement work with three sections. The tonality of the piece is modal centered on D, the dorian mode with a flattened 4<sup>th</sup> (D natural minor scale), and D minor. The formal outline of the piece is as follows (Example 3.1):

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Eric Ewazen, Shadowcatcher A Concerto for Brass Quintet and Wind Ensemble, New World Records, 2001

### Example 3.1

I Slow - Misterioso quasi recit. J. = 38 (b.1-64)

II Fast - Quasi Bossa Nova J = 126 (b.65-129)

III Slow - Misterioso quasi recit. J. = 48 (b.130-184)

There are two main sources of inspiration which provide some insight into the piece's formal devices:

- 1. The name of the trombone quartet *Bones Apart*.
- The thoughts found in the scripture verse, 1 Corinthians,
   chapter 12, verse 13<sup>25</sup>

I took the name *Bones Apart* and assigned notes to the letters where notes could actually be assigned (Example 3.2):



Example 3.2

This became (Example 3.3):

 $<sup>^{25}</sup>$  1 Corinthians 12: 13, The Holy Bible New International Version, New York International Bible Society, 1978

#### Example 3.3



It is the basis of one of the themes in the middle section of the piece.

The outer two movements find their origin in the thoughts in 1 Corinthians chapter 12, verse 13<sup>26</sup> (Example 3.4).

#### Example 3.4

"For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body — whether Jews or Greeks, slave or free — we were all given the one Spirit to drink."

(NIV 1978).

It is quite a mystery to think of humanity as one body and so the nature of the outer sections is mysterious. In trying to depict the scripture verse through music I chose meter as a means to determine those who are "free" and those who are "slaves". The free section of chaotic whispering, albeit within the constraints of time, represents those who are free, and the trombone quartet and percussion represent those who are slaves. Meter binds them.

The music toys with the trombone quartet in three distinct ways:

- 1. As individuals
- 2. As a quartet

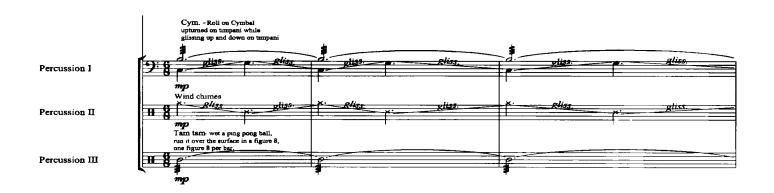
<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> 1 Corinthians 12: 13, The Holy Bible New International Version, New York International Bible Society, 1978

#### 3. As part of the "body" - the band

It is when the quartet is incorporated into the full ensemble "tutti" that the full sonorities of the work are achieved.

The piece opens with atmospheric percussion setting the scene for something mysterious and spiritual (Example 3.5). The percussion texture is made up of timpani glissing up and down while rolling with soft mallets on an upturned cymbal placed in the centre of the drumhead; wind chimes glissing up and down; tam-tam played with a wet ping-pong ball, run over the surface of the tam-tam in a figure eight motion – one figure eight per bar.

Example 3.5



Above this ethereal landscape at b.2 the band begin to whisper, "For we are all baptized by one Spirit into one body." The whispering is intended to be more chaotic than unified. This is a free section with players choosing when to enter, how to say the phrase, and the rate of repetition. However, it is not completely free. The conductor is still beating time J. = 38 so it is more a sense of freedom within the constraints of time. By b.3 the bass trombone enters with a solo phrase (Example 3.6).

#### Example 3.6



This is the start of an investigation into the essence of the quartet and the different aspects that make up the "body", the ensemble of the quartet itself, starting with one player in b.3 and ending with full quartet by b.13. I chose a melancholic theme for the trombones to express their captivity (Example 3.7). The third trombone continues in b.6-8. This is all played in time for the trombones while the rest of the band continues with the texture already set up in b.2.

### Example 3.7



From b.9-12 the quartet splits in two pairs. At b.9-10 the first and second trombones play a two bar phrase, answered in b.11-12 by the third and bass trombones. It is at this point in b.9 the chaotic whispering stops, as indicated by the conductor, however, the ethereal percussion continues. At b.10 and b.12 the euphoniums and basses whisper a single word together and in time, "one".

The quartet becomes a quartet in earnest a b.13 (Example 3.8).



The whispering in the band returns at b.16, however, it is not chaotic anymore; it is a unison statement of the words, "one Spirit, one body," repeated twice. The texture clears to only trombone quartet at b.18, (Example 3.9), and the whispering and percussion cease. The material here is a realization of the opening recitative threads, now as one ensemble and in a slightly faster tempo  $J_{\cdot} = 48$ .



At b.20 the full band enters playing the answering phrase minus the trombones. The texture thins out at b.28 into a small ensemble within the band

itself. In this section there is a constant evolving state of what an ensemble is or indeed what the "body" is. The trombones merge into this ensemble at b.32 and evolve it by b.34 into a septet consisting of soprano cornet, trombone quartet, and solo  $E^{\flat}$  bass and solo euphonium (Example 3.10). All these parts are soloists in their own right at this point.



The texture begins to thicken in bars 43 and 44, heralding the combination of both ensembles into one, with the cornets and trombones playing a variation of the original material. The piece builds in intensity with an undulating accompaniment of sixteenth notes, passed around the rest of the band. The accompaniment with its ebbing and flowing sixteenths is reminiscent of waves on the ocean. A climax is reached at b.55 and the trombone quartet becomes a solo quartet again

accompanied by full band. The sixteenth accompaniment figure leaves the band and enters the trombones, evolving into a trumpeting idea in arpeggios (Example 3.11).

#### Example 3.11



The texture begins to thin out at b.62-64 with flugel horn joining the quartet to make a quintet, minus the cornets. Flugel horn and trombones lead seamlessly into b.65 and the middle section of the piece.

The middle section is a bossa nova which the trombones and Latin percussion introduce. The inclusion of clavés into the score with the traditional rhythm associated with the clavés adds a Latin flavour almost immediately. Flugel and euphonium comment in octaves at b.66. This figure is a variation of a theme that is to come at b.74 (Example 3.12).

#### Example 3.12



Bar 65-81 set up the feel of the bossa nova. In this introduction the roles of solo quartet and accompaniment are again played with and transposed. At b.65-67 the trombones play detached chords in Latin rhythms and the flugel horn and

euphonium comment. At b.68-70 the horns play the detached chords in latin rhythms and the trombones and soprano comment.

Finally at b.74 the trombones emerge as soloists with a statement of the theme which is based on the notes found within the name, *Bones Apart* (Example 3.13).

## Example 3.13



From b.74 -81 none of the material is strictly for the soloists only. It is constantly shifting and being used by everyone, soloists and accompaniment alike. However, at this point it is clear the quartet is a group of soloists.

The main theme of the middle section is introduced at b.82 in unison trombones, with basses and Latin percussion accompaniment, in what could be described as a *concertino* section (Example 3.14).



Half way through the theme the trombones break into four part harmony. They continue in b.90 alone with the basses and percussion playing the answering phrase of the new theme (Example 3.15).



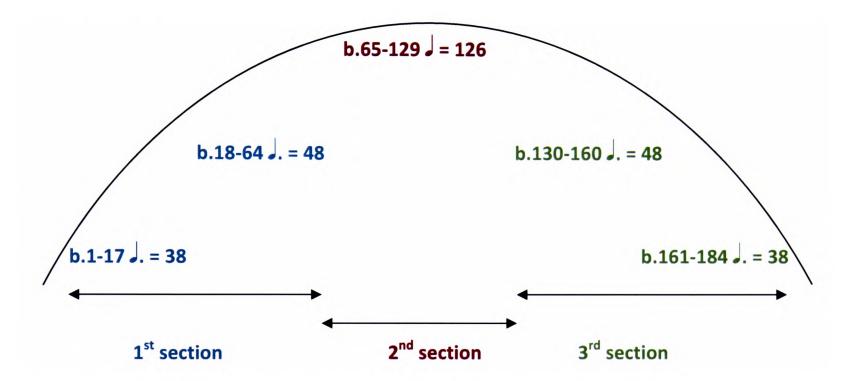
The last bar is repeated in full band minus the trombones, and so begins a *tutti* or *ripieno* section for the band. Bars 99-102 form an introduction linking previous material to a full statement of the main theme in *the* ripieno at b.103. The material is similar to the material in b.65. The ripieno section lasts until b.111 when the trombones enter again as soloists – *concertino* – playing the second half of the theme, however, they do not have the chance to finish the theme alone. The band joins them six bars later and band and soloists become one again. The theme is finished as before, minus the trombones (Example 3.16).



Bar 120 sees a return to the opening of the middle section, a verbatim recapitulation up to bar 128. The difference this time is in the nature of the material winding down in tempo and dynamics leading into the final section of the piece at b.130. So the entire section from b.120 – 129 is an elongated diminuendo from *forte* to *pianissimo*. Soloists and band play a sustained chord at b.129 and the mysterious, ethereal percussion of the opening returns at b.130. The chaotic

whispering from the opening few bars returns, For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body<sup>27</sup>. At b. 134-159 there is a return to the material of b.18. The piece is retracing its steps formally, not literally as a mirror image of itself, but more an arch form (Example 3.17).

Example 3.17



Thematically, the structure is (Example 3.18):

Example 3.18

Bar No.	Theme	Section
1 - 44	Α	1
45 - 64	В	1
65 - 81	С	2
82 - 98	D	2
99 – 102	С	2
103 – 119	D	2
120 – 129	С	2
130 – 160	В	3
161 – 177	A	3
178 – 184	Α	3 (codetta)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> 1 Corinthians 12: 13, The Holy Bible New International Version, New York International Bible Society, 1978

Bars 159 and 160 are devoid of the sixteenths that were intensifying the theme back at b.43-44. Now a single sustained chord winds the piece down with the stability of the opening material at b.161. This is a recapitulation, verbatim from b.1 – 16 to bars 161 – 176. The last two bars 175 and 176 are repeated and extended as in b.17, and then bars 178 and 179 are repeated in unison. The ethereal percussion continues as the piece dissolves into nothingness, yet the mystery still exists. The question of oneness has been explored, not solved. This is a mystery that just is.

# 9. Unseen Things

Unseen Things is a song cycle of poems written by the poet Fay Inchfawn.

- l Child-Soul
- II The Flight of the Fairies
- III The Home Lights

Fay Inchfawn is actually a pseudonym for Elizabeth Rebecca Ward. She was born in England 2<sup>nd</sup> December 1880 and died April 1978. Her verse is spiritual and gentle and speaks of her thoughts on normal daily life and spiritual things. *Child-Soul* is in her book, *Through the Windows of a Little House*<sup>28</sup>, while *Flight of the Fairies* and *The Home Lights* are in another collection, *Verse Book of a Homely Woman*<sup>29</sup>.

The connection with these poems is simple family nostalgia. My mother owned the book, *Through the Windows of a Little House*. I was not aware of this fact or even interested in Fay Inchfawn's poetry until I discovered the well-worn copy as I was packing up the family home. Mum was widowed in 1997 and in 2004 her only son and caregiver died in a tragic accident in Thailand. Living alone was no longer a safe option for my mother. It was during the painful process of moving out that I found this book. The words, although slightly dated brought a strange sense of comfort.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>28</sup> Fay Inchfawn, Through the Windows of a Little House, London Ward, Lock & Co., 1927

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> Fay Inchfawn, Verse Book of a Homely Woman,

http://www.oldpoetry.com/oauthor/show/fay\_inchfawn, 2011

Child-Soul spoke to my heart and was consequently written in memory of my brother. The Home Lights was written in memory of the family home and Flight of the Fairies was selected for the sheer intrigue of the text and all things mystical. I thought the character of the poem, would make for an interesting musical shift between the other two poems, which are somewhat similar in mood and nature.

The Flight of the Fairies by contrast is extremely playful in nature. And so, three seemingly unrelated poems by the same author are now married together to form the song cycle, Unseen Things. The title refers to three different phenomena found within the poems; the soul, fairies and heaven.

#### I. Child-Soul

Child-Soul required a gentle approach with piano and string orchestra accompaniment. The main problem to be solved was writing for strings. Coming from a predominantly brass band background meant I needed to immerse myself in string writing and become very comfortable with all aspects of the idiom, including technique, scoring and effects. Samuel Barber's, Adagio for Strings Op.11<sup>30</sup> (1939) with its rich harmonies, thick scoring and vast range enlightened me to some of the possibilities.

The mood of the poem is child-like and tentative. Each verse progresses from a quasi-negative stance to a positive exclamation, as in e.g. verse 1 (Example 4.1):

### Example 4.1

Child-soul is a little city with its gates ajar.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> Samuel Barber, Adagio for Strings, Op.11, CBS Records, CBS Inc. New York, 1983

To win the right to move and walk within

Though not to do so is a sin,

positive  $\left\{\begin{array}{ll} \textit{And I'll get in!} \\ & \text{(Inchfawn 1927)}^{31}. \end{array}\right.$ 

It deals with the difficulties of trying to connect with our spiritual selves and determines that in fact it is possible and even beneficial for those who dare.

The music mirrors the tentative, questioning mood with harmonic shifts of subtle modal harmony mostly through a tonal center of A (A minor, A major and A natural major). The main mode that is referenced is the Aeolian mode - A natural minor (Example 4.2).

#### Example 4.2



A major represents the positive thoughts expressed in the poem (Example 4.3):

#### Example 4.3

And I'll get in! - Verse 1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> Fay Inchfawn, Child Soul, Through the Windows of a Little House, London Ward, Lock & Co., 1927

(Inchfawn 1927).

However, the basic progression of the entire piece is:

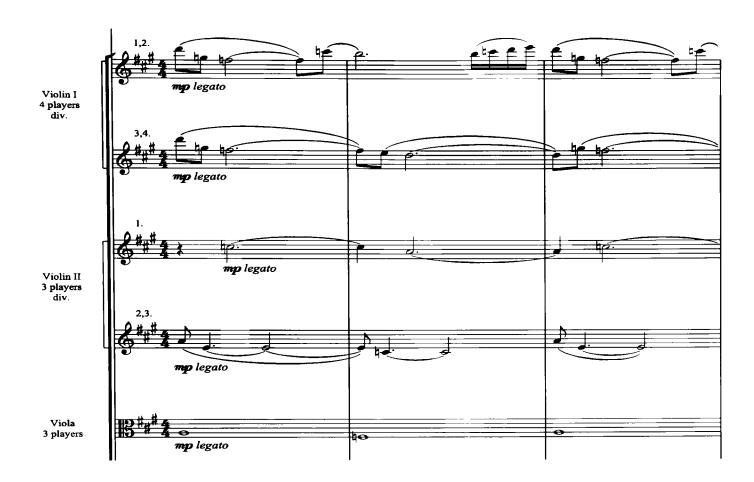
$$I - A \min/maj - IV - D maj - I - A maj$$

Verse 1 can be broken down into four phrases:

- 1. b.9-11 I A maj/A min
- 2. b.12-15 I A maj IV D maj $^{7}/C^{4}$
- 3. b.16-20 VII G maj<sup>9</sup>/B I A maj<sup>9</sup>/E
- 4. b.21-29  $I A \text{ maj}^9/E I A \text{ maj}$

The choice I made concerning scoring was to add piano to the string orchestra, not as a colour doubling the orchestra, but rather as an independent voice punctuating thoughts. These 2 bodies of accompaniment interchange roles with the string orchestra being dominant one moment and the piano the next.

The material in the introduction b.1-8 is entirely modal, both melodically and harmonically. The main characteristics of the melody are; a falling 5<sup>th</sup>, a falling 2<sup>nd</sup>, and a rising 4<sup>th</sup>. The interval of a 2<sup>nd</sup> will have an important role throughout the melody (Example 4.4).



The piano breaks through the texture, over a sustained chord in the strings, heralding the entrance of the voice in b.9 with a three bar phrase (Example 4.5).

Example 4.5



The melody starts on the 2<sup>nd</sup> degree of the scale and is based on a rising appoggiatura and accompanied by piano and solo cello. It is harmonized by two oscillating chords A major and G major<sup>6</sup> in the piano. The modal shift to G instead of

G<sup>#</sup> adds a little more tension. This happens in all three verses of the song (Example 4.6):

### Example 4.6

- V.1 Child-soul = is a little city (G maj<sup>6</sup>)
- V.2 Child-soul = is a little garden (Gmaj<sup>6</sup>)
- V.3 Child-soul = has a little temple (G maj<sup>6</sup>)

Notice the bass line progression in the piano is a falling major 2<sup>nd</sup> (Example 4.7).

### Example 4.7



The 2<sup>nd</sup> phrase is very similar to the 1<sup>st</sup> phrase however; the last part of the phrase is treated with a little word painting. The word "far" is sustained over two bars while the accompaniment embarks on a two bar harmonic journey from A major to F major to D major and finally to G major. This illustrates the imagined journey implied in the words, "I must travel far." It is on the word "far" that the string orchestra returns to the texture. Having arrived in G major at b.16 it is not long before the harmony shifts back to A major. The verse ends positively in A major.

The introduction to verse 2 is identical to the first intro for verse 1 except it is scored for piano and solo cello (Example 4.8).

Example 4.8



In verse 2 there are four phrases just as in verse 1, however the 3<sup>rd</sup> phrase is slightly longer this time. The harmonic structure is also the same as verse 1. Something that is completely different from verse 1 is the accompaniment figures and scoring. The

string orchestra covers greater depth of colour and range than in the previous verse.

This is in part a reflection of the text of verse 2 speaking about the, *little garden*.

There are two main moments of word painting:

1. "And all my will and utmost skill I'll need to get in there." 32

At b.43 and 44 on the sustained word, "there" the accompaniment in the piano becomes very rhythmical and determined, illustrating "and all my will."

2. "So rich the soil that waiting lies."

The third phrase starts at b.45 with the words, "so rich the soil that waiting lies."

The texture of the string orchestra opens up at this point to reveal, thick, rich scoring and sonorities, illustrating "so rich the soil," (Example 4.9).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> Fay Inchfawn, Child Soul, Through the Windows of a Little House, London Ward, Lock & Co., 1927



The introduction to verse three is the same as the others except it is scored for strings and piano. This time however the introduction ends on chord I-A major instead of V-E major as in the other introductions. This is to prepare for a modulation to D major for verse 3.

Verse three has four phrases just like the other verses, however the tonality changes for the first half of the verse in submission to the text.

Child soul has a little temple opening on the street<sup>33</sup>.

Here lies the heart of Child-Soul and the text really begged for this modulation. The harmonic structure of the four phrases in verse three is as follows, (Example 4.10):

#### Example 4.10

1. b.68-70 I – D maj – IV G maj, min/B

2. b.71-76  $I - D \text{ maj/A} - I \text{ of D or IV of A D maj}^7/C^{\frac{1}{4}}$ 

3. b.77-81 VII of A – G maj/B – VI Fmaj<sup>7</sup>

4. b.82-89  $I - A \text{ maj}^9/E - I A \text{ maj}$ 

Verse three is full of word painting even in the form of the new tonality of D major itself. In b.70 there is word painting on the word "street". The harmony and the texture in the strings open up from G major through G minor to D major, reflecting the words, "opening on the street." At b.77 there is word painting in the 1<sup>st</sup> violin accompaniment figure with high glistening strings reflecting the corresponding words, "O little temple glistening bright!"

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> Fay Inchfawn, Child Soul, Through the Windows of a Little House, London Ward, Lock & Co., 1927

The agony of the word "enough", as encapsulated in the question, "what if my hands be clean and white enough to lift your curtain right," is portrayed by a melisma on the second syllable of the word "enough" in the soprano soloist, (Example 4.11). The melisma covers two bars and rises in pitch and agony until b.81 when it comes to rest in F major – VI, feigning an interrupted cadence before returning to A major in b.82.

#### Example 4.11



More word painting follows in b.83 and 84 in the piano accompaniment. The high, tentative eighth notes illustrate the words, "to lift your curtain right." The final few words of the poem, "and let in light" are treated with word painting in the entire accompaniment. The shimmering sixteenth figure in the strings and the contrary motion of scalic ideas in the strings and piano, create an expanse, and evokes a sensation of light streaming in, (Example 4.12). The song comes to rest positively on a sustained A major chord, reflecting the positive light that has entered.



### **II. Flight of the Fairies**

The words of this song spoke to me of mischief and magic, nymphs playing in the forest.

There's a rustle in the woodlands, And a sighing in the breeze,

For the Little Folk are busy in the bushes and the trees;

They are packing up their treasures, every one with nimble hand,

Ready for the coming journey back to sunny Fairyland.

(Inchfawn 2011).34

I thought it would be a lot of fun to set these very descriptive words to music. Not having set such playful words before, I turned to the music of Maurice Ravel and specifically to his opera, *L'enfant et les Sortilèges*<sup>35</sup> (1925). The sound world and the playfulness in Ravel's score was inspirational.

The playfulness of the poetry required playfulness in all aspects of the song, so consequently I added some playful effects throughout the score:

- 1. Playful giggles in the soloist b.19
- 2. Arpeggios in the piano b. 3
- 3. Glisses and trills in the strings b. 5 & b. 33
- 4. High tessitura for strings keeping the texture light etc b.1

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>34</sup> Fay Inchfawn, The Flight of the Fairies, Verse Book of a Homely Woman, http://www.oldpoetry.com/oauthor/show/fay\_inchfawn, 2011

Maurice Ravel, L'enfant et Les Sortilèges Fantasie Lyrique en deux parties, Paris: Durand & Cie., 1925

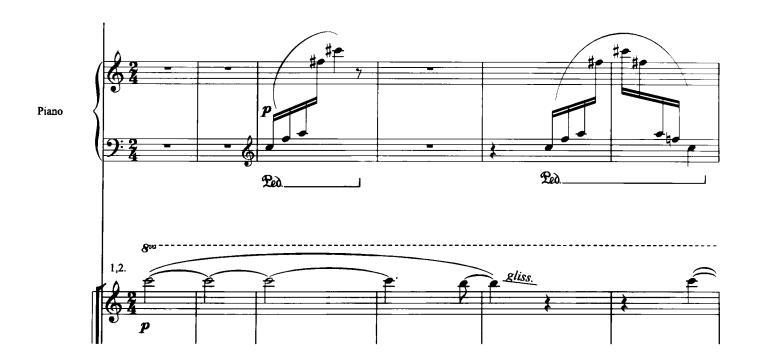
The choice I made with regard to scoring was to keep the score light. The piano, string orchestra and voice have equal roles to play, however the song itself is the most important. Ravel made a similar comment about his opera, *L'enfant et les sortileges*:

"C'est le chant qui domine ici. L'orchestre, sans faire fi de la virtuosité instrumetale, reste néanmoins au second plan."

(Ravel 1938).36

The premise of the song is that the Fairies are packing up all the summer things in the forest for winter before they fly to sunny Fairyland. The introduction sets the scene in the forest (Example 4.13), with mysterious, high sustained strings and bitonal arpeggios in the piano F major and F<sup>#</sup> major combined.

Example 4.13



The rest of the string orchestra joins at b.11 on a chord of F major, ultimately leading to a rich bed of strings at b.15 (Example 4.14). The rich bed consists of open 5ths on

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>36</sup> Maurice Ravel, Maurice Ravel Frontispice – L'entant et Les Sortilèges, http://www.maurice-ravel.net/enfant.htm, 1938

G and F. These chords are indicated as "sul pont" on the bridge for the strings and they are tremelos. This is a very eerie effect which continues to add to the mysterious picture of the forest being portrayed. On top of this texture at b.17 – 22 (Example 4.14), are arpeggios in the piano based on the chords D augmented and C augmented, both in 2<sup>nd</sup> inversions. The final layer of the texture is the voice b.19 (Example 4.14), or indeed the fairies at play, giggling. This is achieved with spoken voice and rising and falling arpeggios based on a whole tone scale.



ere is an appearance of a fairy in b.24 and 25 (Example 4.15), with trills and contrary motion scales, leading to a descending, vocal glissando.



The soloist continues at b.27 with verse one, singing alone with the accompaniment in the piano merely commenting on what has been sung. There is some word painting in the piano at b.32 and 33 with the arpeggios illustrating the word, "breeze."

The soloist goes on to describe how busy the "Little Folk" are (Example 4.16), over  $G^{\flat}$  augmented chord built on D. This chord is suspended for six bars in the violins and treated as a very long trill. These effects all add to the magic and mystery of the subject matter.

Example 4.16



From bars 40-47 (Example 4.17), there are three layers of texture and tonality:

- 1. Voice G<sup>b</sup> maj<sup>4</sup> melody
- 2. Violins G<sup>b</sup> aug/D trills moving to E maj frequently
- 3. Lower strings alternating open 4<sup>th</sup> chords built on F & G



Another string effect is used to create interest and intrigue, the mysterious "col legno". This is the effect of using the back of the bow to bounce on the strings. It

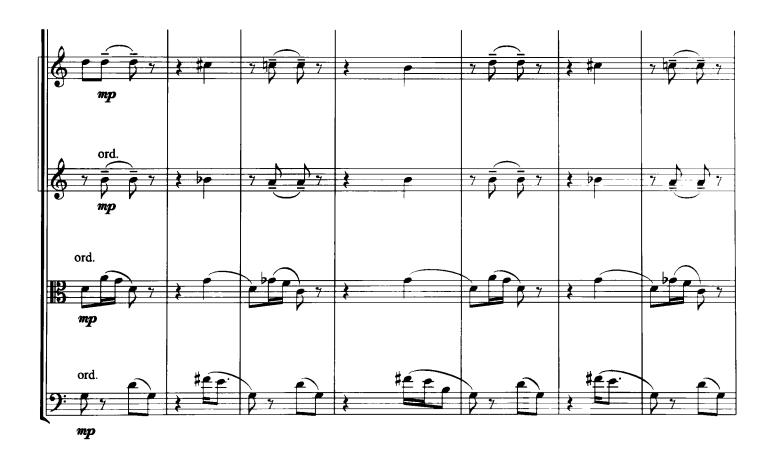
sounds quite dry and brittle with very little residue of pitch. At the end of this phrase the soloist talks about the fairies going to "Sunny Fairyland" (Example 4.18), with a sense of longing.

## Example 4.18



The accompaniment, piano and strings answer this with music from "Sunny Fairyland" at b.48 (Example 4.19), and a shift in tonality to G maj<sup>7</sup>.

Example 4.19



This forms the introduction to verse 2.

Verse 2 is more sustained and connected and has an air of contentment about it. The verse talks about all the precious things the fairies are packing up to

take with them to "Fairyland" for the winter. From bars 65-73 there are three layers in the texture and three layers of tonality:

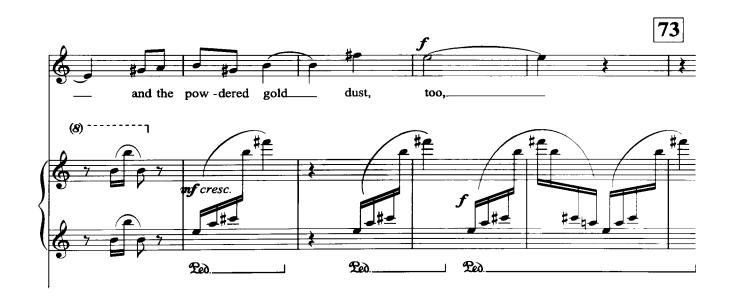
- 1. Voice E maj (basically)
- 2. Piano B maj & A maj
- 3. Strings II Violins A maj

Viola B maj & A maj

Cello B maj

At b.69-72 there is some word painting in the piano (Example 4.20), illustrating the words, "powdered gold dust."

### Example 4.20



There is a momentary return to the sonority of  $G^{\flat}$  major/ $G^{\flat}$  augmented from b.73-80 with a chord of  $G^{\flat}$  augmented in the strings suspended high above the texture, reminiscent of the ending of verse 1.

Verse 3 commences at b.85 and is very similar in nature and structure to verse 2. There are five phrases in verses 2 & 3, example for verse 3:

1. b.85-88 - II G maj – VII E min

2. b.89-92 - II G min – VII E min

3. b.93-96 - VII E maj/min

4. b.99-106 - III & IV A maj & B maj & E maj (3 layers tonality)

5. b.107-115 - II  $G^{\flat}$  aug &  $G^{\flat}$  maj

At the end of verse 3 the last phrase of the poem is:

"Out of the pearly scented box they dropped a violet."<sup>37</sup>

To signify the violet dropping, the piano plays a descending whole tone scale on C<sup>#</sup> (Example 4.21).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> Fay Inchfawn, The Flight of the Fairies, Verse Book of a Homely Woman, http://www.oldpoetry.com/oauthor/show/fay\_inchfawn, 2011



Bar 116 sees a return to the opening ideas with giggling fairies. Verse 4 is similar in nature to verse 1, however it is comprised of two phrases from verse 1 and two phrases from verse 2.

1. b.126-133 - V.1

2. b.134-141 - V.1

3. b.141-145 - V.2

4. b.146-149 - V.2

There is more word painting b.131-133 (Example 4.22). The accompaniment illustrates the words:

"Then o'er a leafy carpet, by the silent woods they came."38

## Example 4.22



A coda follows made up of an introduction and an abridged verse with only two phrases. The verse is more in the nature of verse 1 than verse 2. The texture and song vanish into thin air (Example 4.23), much like the fairies do in the last abridged verse:

"Music filtered through the forest and the little folk were gone."

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>38</sup> Fay Inchfawn, The Flight of the Fairies, Verse Book of a Homely Woman, http://www.oldpoetry.com/oauthor/show/fay\_inchfawn, 2011



## **III. The Home Lights**

This poem speaks of warm nostalgia with a hint of sadness here and there, reflecting on what once was. I was drawn to the lush writings of Ralph Vaughan Williams and his sweet tonal sound. The reference to "my father's house" speaks of nostalgia for me and is the essence of the song. So I chose to set the scene of "my father's house" from the very beginning with warm meandering sixteenths on an E<sup>b</sup> maj<sup>9</sup> chord (Example 4.24).

Example 4.24



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>39</sup> Fay Inchfawn, The Home Lights, Verse Book of a Homely Woman, http://www.oldpoetry.com/oauthor/show/fay\_inchfawn, 2011

This motif takes on the role of nostalgia throughout the piece, with the ever returning feeling of home and safety, and word painting:

b.1-10	-	setting the scene for "my father's house" 40
b.31-32	-	"worn familiar door"
b.36		"outside the well remembered gate"
b.41-44	-	"my spirit was at home once more"
b.72-73	-	"these fearsome things were left behind"
b.89-95	-	" 'tis but thy Father's House!"

Another important feature of the poem for me is the reference to, "bright love lamps leaning out to welcome me," (Example 4.25). This is treated the same way when the words return throughout the poem.

<sup>40</sup> Fay Inchfawn, The Home Lights, Verse Book of a Homely Woman, http://www.oldpoetry.com/oauthor/show/fay\_inchfawn, 2011



Verse 1 speaks of my father's house and the feeling of safety associated with

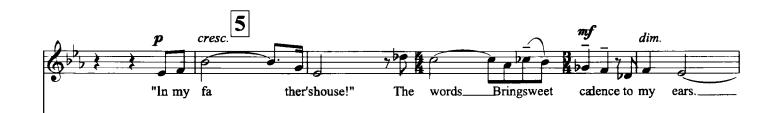
it. Verse 2 remembers the exterior of the house while verse 3 remembers the

peaceful interior. Verse 4 talks about the reality of life and leaving it behind for a heavenly home and verse 5 speaks about the hope of heaven. The basic harmonic structure of the entire piece is:

$$I(E^{\flat} maj) - V(B^{\flat} min) - I(E^{\flat} maj) - II(F maj)$$

The melody of verse 1 (Example 4.26), opens with a rising 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup>, falling 3rds and appoggiaturas.

#### Example 4.26



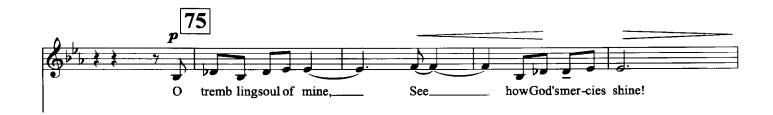
There are three phrases in verse 1 and the harmonic structure is as follows:

1. b.5-10 - 
$$I(E^{b} \text{ maj}^{9})$$

There is some word painting in the first verse and some hints of things to Come such as in bars 9 & 10 (Example 4.27 & 4.28), when the piano hints at what will become a vocal line later in the piece at b.75:



# Example 4.28



The words, "wandering thoughts, like homing birds, Fly all swiftly down the years,"

41 are illustrated in the string accompaniment (Example 4.29), with downward moving patterns.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>41</sup> Fay Inchfawn, The Home Lights, Verse Book of a Homely Woman, http://www.oldpoetry.com/oauthor/show/fay\_inchfawn, 2011



The accompaniment on "wide casement" (Example 4.30), is another motif that is referenced throughout the entire song.



The introduction to verse 2 is new material, falling 4ths over a B<sup>b</sup> pedal. Although the material is different from verse 1, it has an organic sense of evolving from material in verse 1. There are three phrases in verse 2, like verse 1. The harmonic structure is as follows:

1. 
$$b.26-32$$
  $V(B^{\flat} min^9) - I(E^{\flat} maj^9)$ 

2. b.33-36 - III (
$$G^{\flat}$$
 maj<sup>9</sup>) – V ( $B^{\flat}$  min)

3. 
$$b.37-47$$
 -  $V(B^{b} min) - I(E^{b} maj^{9})$ 

There is a lot of word painting in verse 2. The references to "my father's house" have already been mentioned. From b.33 & 34 (Example 4.31), the static piano and string accompaniment illustrates the words, "no need to stand a while and wait." The verse continues, "no need to knock;" and the piano replies with a knocking figure.

#### Example 4.31



The verse ends with the words, "my spirit was at home once more." The piece returns to the "home" key of E<sup>b</sup> major and a reference to "my father's house" follows in bars 42-45 in the strings, the opening meandering sixteenth figure portraying "home". This is the introduction to verse 3.

Verse 3 has three phrases just as in the previous verses. And just like verse 2 it is new material, yet organically similar. In bars 51 & 52 (Example 4.32), there is a reference in the strings to bars 15 & 16. The figure referred to is a motif for the "wide casement" of the house, yet another reference to the home.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup> Fay Inchfawn, The Home Lights, Verse Book of a Homely Woman, http://www.oldpoetry.com/oauthor/show/fay\_inchfawn, 2011



The word "tired" is treated sequentially between voice and 1<sup>st</sup> violins. At bars 56 – 58 the strings are detaché. This is the first and only time the strings have been marked this way in the piece. With the C major and B<sup>b</sup> major 7<sup>th</sup> harmonies in bars 56 and 57 respectively, I thought detaché and the major harmonies combined would produce a more jovial feel. This is word painting on the words, "I could forget the dreary fret." 43

The verse continues in b.59 with the words:

"The strivings after hopes too high;

I let them every one go by."

The accompaniment figure in the lower strings (Example 4.33), is the motif that represents the "wide casement" in b.15 & 16 and also the "tired child" in b.51 & 52. Example 4.33



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup> Fay Inchfawn, The Home Lights, Verse Book of a Homely Woman, http://www.oldpoetry.com/oauthor/show/fay\_inchfawn, 2011

The introduction at b.65 is a recapitulation of the introduction in b 23, heralding a return to the material of verse 2. Verse 4 has similarities to verse 2, however this verse has four phrases – unlike any of the other verses:

1. 
$$b.67-73 - V(B^{\flat} min^9) - I(E^{\flat} min^7)$$

2. 
$$b.74-79 - V(B^{\flat} min^{6}) - I(E^{\flat} maj^{9}/B^{\flat})$$

3. b.79-83 - III (
$$G^{\flat}$$
 maj) – V ( $B^{\flat}$  maj<sup>9</sup>)

4. b.84-90 - 
$$V(B^b min^7) - I(E^b maj^9)$$

The last phrase is a cappella and is a direct reference to the text itself.

There are many instances of word painting in this verse. The string accompaniment in bars 72 & 73 is a direct illustration of the words, "left behind."

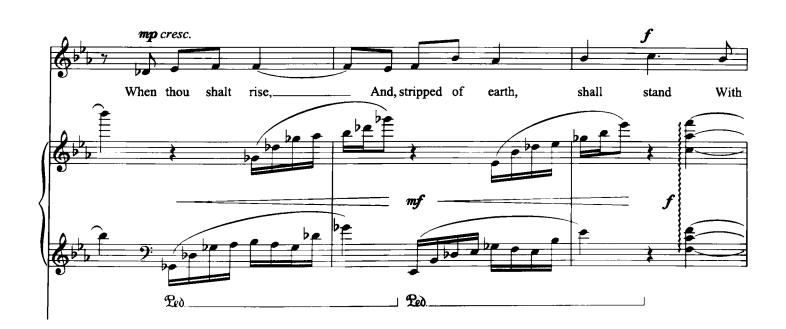
The accompaniment has the feeling of leaving. In the next phrase, "O trembling soul of mine," 44 the accompaniment is another direct reference to the "wide casement" (Example 4.34), motif. Here it is used to underline the "trembling soul", indeed the "tired child."

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>44</sup> Fay Inchfawn, The Home Lights, Verse Book of a Homely Woman, http://www.oldpoetry.com/oauthor/show/fay\_inchfawn, 2011



In b.79 the accompaniment continues to portray the text, "when thou shalt rise" is accompanied in the piano with a rising arpeggio figure. "And stripped of earth" in b.80 is the point at which the strings drop out of the texture completely. In b.81 (Example 4.35), the piano goes on to comment on the text, "shall stand" with an upward arpeggio on an F minor sustained chord.

Example 4.35



The fourth and last phrase of this verse is a cappella (Example 4.36), reflecting the words:

"Alone, where no familiar thing

May bring familiar comforting."<sup>45</sup>

I toyed with adding accompaniment here but preferred the uncomfortable feeling the sudden a cappella section brings. This in itself paints the words perfectly.

#### Example 4.36



After this phrase there is a return to the opening material and ultimately the feeling of home in E<sup>b</sup> major and "thy Father's House!", this time speaking of our heavenly Father and the home being prepared there.

The piece ends up a major  $2^{nd}$  higher than it opened. This is a reference to being in a new place, heaven. Gustav Mahler used this device in his *Symphony*  $No.2^{46}$ , entitled the *Resurrection Symphony*. The piece starts out in C minor but ends a minor  $3^{rd}$  higher in  $E^{b}$  major. For Mahler this was a reference to the Resurrection itself.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>45</sup> Fay Inchfawn, The Home Lights, Verse Book of a Homely Woman, http://www.oldpoetry.com/oauthor/show/fay\_inchfawn, 2011

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>46</sup> Gustav Mahler, Symphony No.2, Berliner Philharmoniker & Sir Simon Rattle, EMI Records, Ltd., 2010

# 10. Soul Reflections

Soul Reflections is a three movement suite for wind band. The piece finds its inspiration in the words of Jalal al-Din Rumi, Maulana (1207-1273), the 13<sup>th</sup> century Persian mystic. His works have been translated into English by Coleman Barks, in his collection of ecstatic poems, *The Soul of Rumi*<sup>47</sup>.

The central idea of the work is our yearning for connection with the divine. I chose three poems to express the soul's journey from yearning to deep experience:

- I The Creek and the Stars
- II The Silent Articulation of a Face
- III Cup and Ocean

For Rumi, soul and body are not separate but rather part of the great mystery of mortal life, a riddle whose solution is love.

(Barks 2001)

#### I The Creek and the Stars

Spirit is so mixed with the visible world that giver,

gift, and beneficiary are

one thing. You are the grace raining down, the grace

is you. Creation is

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>47</sup> Coleman Barks, trans., The Soul of Rumi A New Collection of Ecstactic Poems, HarperSanFrancisco, A Division of HarperCollins Publishers, 2001

a clear, flat, fast-moving creek, where qualities reflect,

Generations rush by, while

the stars stay still without a splash. When you lose your

appetite for food, you'll

be given other nourishment. There's well-being that is not

bodily and beings

that live on fragrance. Don't worry about losing animal

energy. Go the way of love

and ask provisions. Love more the star region reflected,

less the moving medium.

The poems are very descriptive and so the music is of a programmatic nature and submits to the text. There are two main themes in this poem, the world as we know it, and things of the spirit. In the poem, spiritual things are represented by the stars and the heavens, and the world is represented by:

A clear, flat, fast-moving creek,

Musically, these two phenomena are represented by two different ideas:

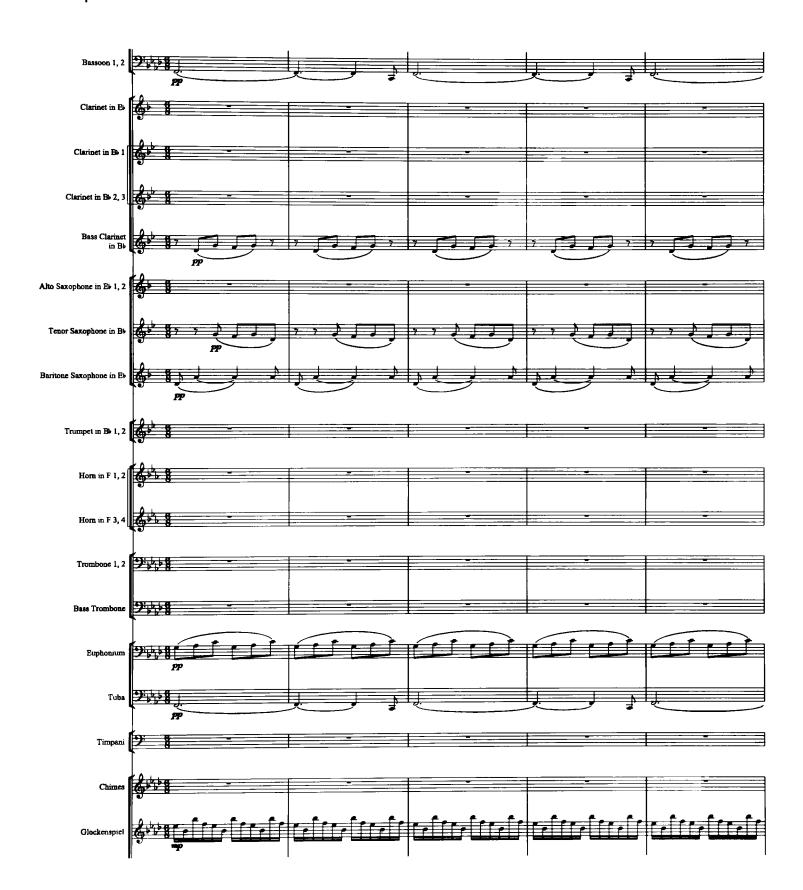
#### 1. Spirit/stars

glockenspiel ostinato which continues throughout the entire piece uninterrupted (Example 5.1).

# 2. World/creek

Arpeggiated figure ostinato scored in bass clarinet, bassoons, saxophones, euphonium and tuba. This figure evokes the ebbing and flowing of water (Example 5.1).

# Example 5.1



At b.8 (Example 5.2), a long sustained melody is introduced in the flute and english horn. This represents the generations and it will evolve throughout the piece.

#### Example 5.2



This melody is punctuated by three beat chords in horns and trombones, and answered by similar chords in clarinets and alto saxophones. These chords crescendo from piano to forte and have a three bar pattern, bar one brass, bar two woodwind, bar three rest.

At b.17 the piece shifts harmonically from F minor down a whole step to E<sup>b</sup> minor. The melody returns at b20 and is in effect the answering phrase to b.8, but scored for flute, oboe and English horn this time. Bar 29 sees a return to F minor and an increase in activity in the score. The melody at b.29 (Example 5.3) is a two beat melody in a three beat environment. The cross rhythm produced are very interesting and a little Celtic in nature.

Example 5.3



The flutes and clarinets handle this melody in a way that is Celtic or folk-like and indeed inherent to woodwinds (Example 5.4).

#### Example 5.4



The answering phrase to this melody is heard at b.37 (Example 5.5), in the saxophones and the horns.

### Example 5.5



This melody is punctuated by a figure in three (Example 5.6), against this melody in two. Cross rhythms play an important role in this piece.

### Example 5.6



Even while this material is being expressed, the "creek" is still evident in english horn, bass clarinet, bassoons, baritone saxophone, bass trombone, and tuba. The creek is still moving and generations are indeed rushing by. Curiously enough, the stars (spirit) are still being reflected in the creek, in the form of the glockenspiel ostinato. Bars 45-53 are a repeat of bars 29-36 in F minor. The section from bars 54-76 (Example 5.7), has alternating bars of 6/8 and 3/4 up to bar 70.

# Example 5.7



This material becomes gradually more and more agitated as the themes already expressed combine and collide with each other through chromaticism until there is release at b.68 in the scalic figures. This represents a little waterfall in the creek, an event in life. At b. 76 the events of life cease, and there is finally stillness for the soul. All that is left is the world and the star reflected region, the spirit. The music is in E<sup>b</sup> minor and spirit continues as it has done unbroken throughout the entire piece. The trumpet plays the melody at b.79 through to the end of the movement.

The accompaniment begins to disintegrate and by b.94 the world (accompaniment) and spirit (glockenspiel) are one in rhythm (Example 5.8). The ostinato in augmentation represents a soul focused on spirit and not the world. The notes are the same as before, just in a slower tempo. This is a musical representation of the last phrase in the poem:

Love more the star region reflected, less the moving medium<sup>48</sup>.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> Coleman Barks, trans., The Soul of Rumi A New Collection of Ecstatic Poems, HarperSanFrancisco, A Division of HarperCollins Publishers, 2001

# Example 5.8



# II The Silent Articulation of a Face<sup>49</sup>

Love comes with a knife, not some shy question, and not with fears for its reputation! I say these things disinterestedly. Accept them in kind. Love is a madman, working his wild schemes, tearing off his clothes, running through the mountains, drinking poison and now quietly choosing annihilation. A tiny spider tries to wrap an enormous wasp. Think of the spiderweb woven across the cave where Muhammad slept! There are love stories, and there is obliteration into love. You've been walking the ocean's edge, holding up your robes to keep them dry. You must dive, naked under and deeper under, a thousand times deeper! Love flows down. The ground submits to the sky and suffers what comes. Tell me, is the earth worse for giving in like that?

<sup>49</sup> Coleman Barks, trans., The Soul of Rumi A New Collection of Ecstatic Poems, HarperSanFrancisco, A Division of HarperCollins Publishers, 2001.

Don't put blankets over the drum! Open completely.

Let your spirit ear listen to the green dome's

passionate murmur. Let the cords of your robe

be untied. Shiver in this new love beyond all

above and below. The sun rises, but which way

does night go? I have no more words. Let the

soul speak with the silent articulation of a face.<sup>50</sup>

The second movement is based on a rising major 2<sup>nd</sup>, a minor 7<sup>th</sup> and a falling minor 2<sup>nd</sup> (Example 5.9). Fragments of melody are passed around the ensemble before solo oboe states it in full.

#### Example 5.9

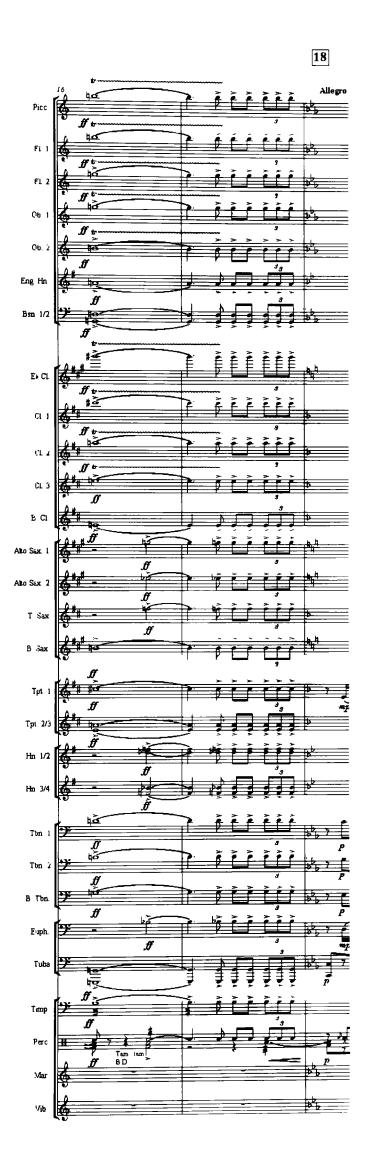


Full wind band enters at b.6 building dramatically over two bars to a fortissimo then immediate silence in b.8. This is the moment, "the silent articulation of a face." At b.9 the idea starts again and repeats everything as before until b.16. It is at this point in the music (Example 5.10), that the first line of the poem is manifest:

Love comes with a knife, not some shy question.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> Coleman Barks, trans., The Soul of Rumi A New Collection of Ecstatic Poems, HarperSanFrancisco, A Division of HarperCollins Publishers, 2001

# Example 5.10



These bars represent the knife, with the colliding harmonies of G major and E<sup>b</sup> minor in 2<sup>nd</sup> inversion.

The Allegro giocoso at b.18 is a musical representation of the madman referred to in the poem (Example 5.11), "Love is a madman." <sup>51</sup>

#### Example 5.11



In this five bar phrase the melody is in the trumpet and euphonium. This phrase is repeated three additional times, each time the orchestration increases and counter melodies become a little wilder. This is especially true of the last repetition at b.33 with the inclusion of rising and falling chromatic scale figures in each bar. This is in part a reference to the circus and a deepening of the madness.

A benign foxtrot idea presents itself at b.38 based on previous material.

However it is quite bizarre in nature and reflects the third couplet of the poem:

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> Coleman Barks, trans., The Soul of Rumi A New Collection of Ecstatic Poems, HarperSanFrancisco, A Division of HarperCollins Publishers, 2001.

### . . . tearing off his clothes, running through the

### mountains, drinking poison . . . <sup>52</sup>

The material continues at b.42 with more of the madman theme (Example 5.12).

#### Example 5.12



The theme and orchestration begin to fragment and disintegrate until b.48 when, "the silent articulation of a face" theme returns. This disintegration is a musical reference to the madman tearing off his clothes. Annihilation is actually the face.

Bar 48 sees a return to the material at the opening of the movement. The recapitulation continues until b.65 when the previous two bars are repeated. This makes the "knife" reference longer than the first reference. The theme for "the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> Coleman Barks, trans., The Soul of Rumi A New Collection of Ecstatic Poems, HarperSanFrancisco, A Division of HarperCollins Publishers, 2001

silent articulation of a face" becomes the bass line in augmentation in G minor at b.67 (Example 5.13).

### Example 5.13



This two bar figure is repeated twice, each a minor 3<sup>rd</sup> higher than before. Above this intense bass line is the madman theme (Example 5.14).

### Example 5.14



As the material transposes on repetition so the orchestration becomes fuller, richer and more intense until the last repetition at b.71 in  $D^{\flat}$  major. This development is a reflection of the text,

You must dive naked under and deeper under, a thousand times deeper!<sup>53</sup>

A climax is reached in b.74 in E major. In b.75 "the silent articulation of a face" theme is treated in augmentation and scored in upper winds and brass, accompanied by descending scales in the low winds. These descending scales represent the text, "Love flows down."

At b.82 the low bass end of the band, bassoon, baritone saxophone and tuba drop out of the texture. The scoring continues to become lighter and softer, and at b.84 the brass alone are left playing "the silent articulation of a face" theme. The music from b.93 to the end reflects the text (Example 5.15):

Shiver in this new love beyond all above and below.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> Coleman Barks, trans., The Soul of Rumi A New Collection of Ecstatic Poems, HarperSanFrancisco, A Division of HarperCollins Publishers, 2001

Example 5.15



The bass end dropping out of the texture represents the text:

The ground submits to the sky and suffers what comes.

### III Cup and Ocean<sup>54</sup>

These forms we seem to be are cups floating in an ocean of living consciousness.

They fill and sink without leaving an arc of bubbles or any good-bye spray. What we

<u>are</u> is that ocean, too near to see, though we swim in it and drink it in. Don't

be a cup with a dry rim, or someone who rides all night and never knows the horse

beneath his thigh, the surging that carries him along.

The ocean is one of the main features of this poem. To represent the ocean I created a one bar ostinato (Example 5.16), that is repeated throughout the movement. The gentle 5/8 rhythm and lilting ostinato elude to the ebbing and flowing of the ocean and the chords in the ostinato alternate between G minor and E<sup>b</sup> minor.

#### Example 5.16

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> Coleman Barks, trans., The Soul of Rumi A New Collection of Ecstatic Poems, HarperSanFrancisco, A Division of HarperCollins Publishers, 2001



A lyrical melody represents one cup (Example 5.17). The shape of the melodic line, rising and falling, suggests the text, "they fill and sink."

# Example 5.17



At b.18 another cup appears in the same ocean in the same key of G minor with alternating  $E^{\flat}$  minor chords. This time the melody is scored with the addition of clarinet and alto saxophone. The melody continues as before ending at b.26.

At b.26 the brass take over the texture with a new theme (Example 5.18). It is still lyrical, still in 5/8 and still in G minor. It is a duet between trumpet and trombone.

Example 5.18



The saxophones take over the theme and answering phrase leading into b.34. In b.41 there is some new material introduced (Example 5.19). It is a bassoon duet accompanied by bass clarinet.

#### Example 5.19



This is repeated and the orchestration is tripled in size. At b. 49 there is a shift in meter to 6/8 until b.56. The piece continues to build in strength and orchestration and volume. The material used at b.49 is the same material used at b.26, however now it is in 6/8 not 5/8 so the theme is slightly elongated in every bar to accommodate the change.

Bar 57-67 is a climactic point in the movement. Throughout these eleven bars there is a constant shift in meter from 5/8 to 6/8 and back again. In fact the meter changes every bar in this short section. The melody in b.57 (Example 5.20), has its origin in b.10.

#### Example 5.20



The rhythmical accompaniment in the band and percussion is very Celtic in nature including the cross rhythms produced by percussion. These rhythms are meant to evoke the idea of, "the horse beneath his thighs." 55

There is a recapitulation at b.68 - 131. The piece repeats the same material in the same key; however, the big difference on the repeat is the scoring. In all cases it is richer and fuller. The final section is different too, in that it marries two of the main themes together over the surging passion of rhythms. The two themes are:

- 1. Saxophones/horns theme from b.26
- 2. Upper woodwinds and trumpet theme from b.57

The last four bars of the piece form a little codetta bringing the piece to a triumphant close.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>55</sup> Coleman Barks, trans., The Soul of Rumi A New Collection of Ecstatic Poems, HarperSanFrancisco, A Dision of HarperCollins Publishers, 2001

# 11. The Salvation Army Lass

The Salvation Army Lass is scored for brass band and piano. It was written to accompany a silent movie of the same name that was produced in 1909. A tremendous amount of research went into locating this movie.

The research began with a search on www.google.com of "The Salvation Army and silent movies." This brought up many links to other sites, which in turn yielded a list of films.

1908	The Salvation Army Lass – silent film
1909	Heroes of the Cross – silent film made by The Salvation
	Army in Melbourne, Australia
1912	The Sunbeam – silent film
1921	Salvation Nell – silent film
1924	Die Heilsarmee – silent German documentary
1927	The Angel of Broadway – silent film

In the process of trying to locate these films I continued researching and my path crossed with *The Christian Mission Historical Association* and Dr. Glenn Horridge who published an article entitled, "*The Salvation Army at the Movies*." Dr. Horridge is a member of The Salvation Army Historical and Philatelic Association. He was able to

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>56</sup> Dr. Glenn Horridge, The Salvation Army at the Movies, The Christian Mission Historical Association, Volume 5, 2003

give me some information on the movie, *The Salvation Army Lass*<sup>57</sup>. It was produced in 1909 and existed somewhere as a film, because Dr. Horridge had watched it.

Unfortunately he could not remember who had supplied the video.

After some further research, Mr. John Cleary of Australia confirmed the movie's existence and suggested getting in touch with AFI (American Film Institute Catalogue), the Library of Congress (Washington, D.C.) and the Herrick Library at the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences. May Haduong, the Public Access Coordinator at the Academy Film Archives in the Herrick Library was the first to respond. She confirmed the film existed, not in their library but stored at the Library of Congress.

I was able to get in touch with Rosemary Hanes, the Reference Librarian of the Moving Image Section of the Library of Congress, and she informed me they possessed a 16mm reference print of, *The Salvation Army Lass* (Call No. FLA 5686). It was available for viewing by researchers with an advance appointment in their Motion Picture and Television Reading Room. I made an appointment for May 18<sup>th</sup> 2010.

Watching the movie for the first time was quite exciting, however it was quite difficult to follow the story as there were no story cards or any reference to characters or the story line in the film itself. It was thirteen minutes and forty eight seconds long, with only a couple of opening credits. In all probability the credits that did exist were placed there by the Library of Congress. To my surprise I discovered

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>57</sup> D.W.Griffith, The Salvation Army Lass, American Mutoscope & Biograph, 1909

from the Librarian that I could place an order for a copy of the film, for a rather large fee.

It took several months for the request to be processed and the movie to be digitally copied. During this time I decided to research the sound world of 1909. I started with Classical music and discovered the following pieces were premiered between 1908 and 1910:

1908	Piano Etude, Opus 7 No.3 <sup>58</sup>	-	Igor Stravinsky
1908	Violin Concerto No.1 <sup>59</sup>	-	Béla Bartók
1908	Golliwog's Cakewalk <sup>60</sup>	-	Claude Debussy
1909	Five Pieces for Orchestra <sup>61</sup>	-	Arnold Schoenberg
1909	Das Lied Von der Erde <sup>62</sup>	-	Gustav Mahler
1910	The Firebird Suite <sup>63</sup>	-	Igor Stravinsky

From here I began researching American Popular music of 1909 and discovered a wealth of piano rags and interestingly, a lot of female composers of said rags. I was able to locate a copy of the original sheet music for two rags through the online services of the library at the University of Colorado,

www.liluna.lib.ad.colorado.edu/sheet

<sup>58</sup> Igor Stravinsky, Piano Etude, Opus 7 No.3, Victor Sangiorgio, Naxos, 2008

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> Béla Bartók, Violin Concert No.1, Dénes Kovács, Budapest Philharmonic Orchestra, Hungaroton Records, Ltd., 1988

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> Claude Debussy, Children's Corner Suite, Golliwogs Cakewalk, Naxos, 2004

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>61</sup> Arnold Schoenberg, Five Pieces for Orchestra, Christoph von Dohnanyi, Cleveland Orchestra, Decca Music Group Ltd., 1996

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>62</sup> Gustav Mahler, Das Lied Von Der Erde, Berlin Philharmonic Orchestra & Herbert von Karajan, Deutsche Grammophon, GmbH, Hamburg, 1987

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>63</sup> Igor Stravinsky, The Firebird, City of Birmingham Orchestra & Simon Rattle, EMI Records Ltd., 1989

1909 That Poker Rag<sup>64</sup> Charlotte Blake (1885-1979)

1909 The Thriller Rag<sup>65</sup> May Frances Aufderheide (1888-1972)

Given the title of the movie, I was interested to hear the kinds of rags that had been produced by these two female writers. I used these two scores to analyze the form of a rag, which in this case is:

Introduction AA BB A Coda

Having watched the movie I knew the opening scene was a bar scene, complete with a pianist. I thought it was fair to assume the pianist would be playing a rag, given the year of the film (1909) and the locale (New York).

Even though I was still waiting for the DVD of the movie to arrive I set about writing an original piano rag. I was interested in finding an old Salvation Army hymn that was about light. One of the important moments in the movie is when the leading lady points to a sign that reads, "God is my light."

The first tune I decided to use was the chorus of the song, "Walk in the Light" (Example 6.1), number 5 in the Song Book entitled, "Salvation Army Music" published in 1890.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>64</sup> Charlotte Blake, That Poker Rag, Jerome H. Remick & Co., Proprietors of Detroit: The Whitney Warner Pub.Co. – New York, 1909

May Frances Aufderheide, The Thriller Rag, J. H. Aufderheide Music Publisher, Indianapolis, 1909
66 Anon., Walk in the Light, Salvation Army Music (Formerly Published as "Revival Music" With
Supplemenary Tunes, International Headquarters, London, John Snow & Co., London, 1890

### Example 6.1



I used melodic fragments of the chorus to create the melody of the rag (Example 6.2), such as the rising major  $2^{nd}$  and major  $3^{rd}$ .

### Example 6.2



The A section of the rag was completed prior to the arrival of the DVD from the Library of Congress. When the DVD arrived I watched it many times. I decided to make a list of the important scene changes and events in the movie complete with the time code as it appeared in Windows Media Player. This proved an invaluable map of the movie, which in effect became the formal structure for the piece itself. These smaller sub sections made the compositional process more manageable and logical in terms of writing music for film.

I started writing music at the beginning of the bar scene 0:21. I knew that I would have to improve the opening and closing credits but I decided that could wait until later on in the process. The original piano rag I had been working on became the music for the bar scene.

The first eight bars (b.36-43) of the rag are scored for piano and E<sup>b</sup> Bass, in A<sup>b</sup>. The full band complete with percussion and xylophone joins at b.43 (Example 6.3), and the previous eight bars are repeated, this time with the melody harmonized in 3rds in addition to the pre-existing harmony. On screen, this scene and music introduces the main characters, Mary and Bob.



Bar 52-59 uses the B section of the piano rag and is lightly scored for soprano cornet, two solo cornets, two horns, euphonium, one E<sup>b</sup> Bass, piano xylophone and drum set. At b.60 B is repeated and brought to a close in D<sup>b</sup> major. The material is still very chromatic in nature.

The A theme returns at b.68 only under duress (Example 6.4). On screen, the lecherous drunk is making advances on Mary. Bob is not happy and a brawl erupts.

To help reflect the action on screen into the score, I harmonized the A theme bitonally. The right hand is in A major while the left hand is in A major.

### Example 6.4



The fight spirals out of control, the drunk draws a gun and in the struggle accidentally shoots himself. The shock and realization of what has happened suspends time. I tried to portray this musically from bars 76-86. The material of the xylophone part at b.79 consists of the 7<sup>th</sup> leap in the rag. The sustained chords in the cornets add to the mystery and uncertainty of the situation.

A chorale-like lament begins to unfold (Example 6.5), scored for solo horn,  $\mathbf{1}^{\text{st}}$  and  $\mathbf{2}^{\text{nd}}$  baritone and euphonium.



This represents Mary's thoughts and feelings. She is center stage watching as Bob is taken away by the Police and she is left to ponder what just happened and what this means for her. The chorale is accompanied by the slightly irregular ostinato in the xylophone, sustained chords in the basses, with accentuating timpani and cornets in repetition. The material the cornets are playing (Example 6.6), is a fragment of the opening phrase in the rag, but blurred together in repetition, one eighth note apart in four solo cornets.

Example 6.6



As the chorale develops, so the interjections from the cornets develop to gradually include more and more of the first phrase of the rag.

At b.107 Mary is asked to leave the bar. The first bar of the chorale becomes an ostinato in the 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> baritone in G minor as Mary exits (Example 6.7). This is accompanied by a chorale-like bass section. Unison horns and flugel horn comment on the situation with an augmented, and more sustained version of the B theme of the rag, however it is just a fragment.



The ideas are repeated a 3<sup>rd</sup> lower in E<sup>b</sup> major, minus the cornets sustained chords and with the addition of trombones in an open 5<sup>th</sup> chord. At b.117 the cornets take over the texture with material already introduced by the basses.

The scene changes to Mary's apartment. She is clearly distraught and so the mood of the music is quite melancholy. The theme that is introduced in b.122 in the flugel horn is Mary's theme (Example 6.8).

### Example 6.8

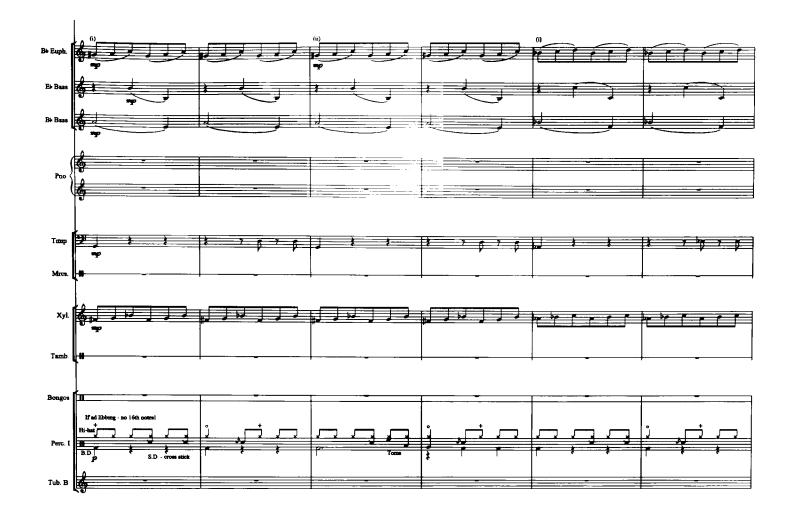


It is continued and answered in the 1<sup>st</sup> baritone at b.130, handed over to solo cornet at b.135 and extended with some tension and questioning with a rising figure at the end of each phrase. After a bar of silence the shocking material heard previously at b.107 returns at b.143 (Example 6.9). This time it is a half step higher, emphasizing the hard, cruel fact that Mary is being evicted. The euphonium and trombone comment on the situation with augmented, melodic fragments from the original piano rag.



Mary's theme returns at b.151 a 4<sup>th</sup> higher. The orchestration is the same as in b.122 with the flugel horn, solo horns, euphonium and basses. However, now the instruments are in a higher tessitura and so the intensity of the sound itself is great. This all adds to the tension of the moment. In addition to this there is rhythmic tension with the inclusion of a two beat ostinato pedal in the timpani. This cross rhythm of two in the timpani against three in the rest of the ensemble really adds intensity and helps reflect the action on screen. Mary is even more distraught now than she was at the beginning of the scene.

At b.163 the timpani increases the tension in the B pedal by diminution. The ostinato becomes single beats and more and more insistent, leading to a change of scene at b.172 (Example 6.10). This is Mary's work place. The pace in the movie is faster at the factory, as is the music. The material used is based on the ostinato at b.107 in the baritones. The tonality here at b.172 is G minor. However the ostinato is treated in diminution, in the euphonium and the xylophone.



This section is in the style of a jazz waltz, with the inclusion of drum set and syncopated rhythms in timpani. The material is a unit of four bar phrases that are repeated over and over, oscillating between G minor and  $A^{\flat}$  major.

b.172-175 - G minor

b.176-179 - A<sup>b</sup> major

b.180-183 - G minor

b.184-187 - A<sup>b</sup> major

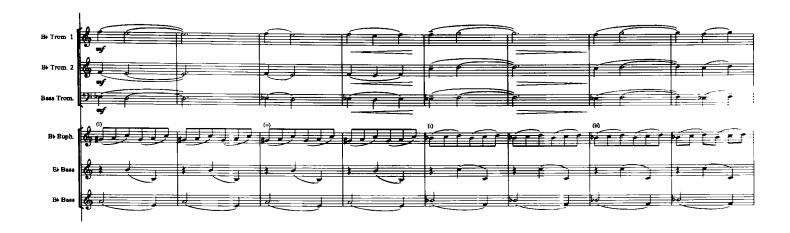
b.188-191 G minor

b.192-195 A<sup>b</sup> major

b.196-199 - G minor

The texture develops and increases every eight bars. In b.180 the falling 2<sup>nd</sup> material, reminiscent of the B theme in the piano rag, has morphed into a chorale-like melody in octaves in the trombones (Example 6.11).

### Example 6.11



Cornets and baritones join the chorale at b.188, adding to the intensity of Mary being fired from her job.

The muted chord in the cornets that has become associated with the shock of the shooting (b.107); and the shock of being evicted (b.143); returns at b.196 over the last repetition of the four bar phrase.

The texture dissolves as Mary is left in the street with nothing. A kind stranger takes pity on her and the mood of the music changes. The piano and euphonium carry on together in a duet at b.204 (Example 6.12). Mary's theme is in the piano with a counter melody in the euphonium. The theme is harmonized with two bars of D minor and two bars of G major<sup>6</sup>. With the introduction of a major sonority it is almost possible to believe things are looking up for Mary.

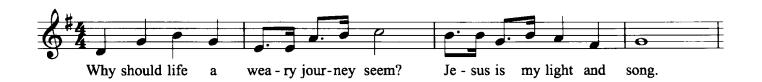


At b.212 the music becomes more impassioned. Bar 219 is another change of scene. It is the first glimpse of The Salvation Army marching in the streets and so to reflect this, the percussion section turns into a marching band complete with marching rhythms (Example 6.13).



The duet between the piano and euphonium continues, joined by two cornets playing material derived from the hymn tune, "Jesus Is My Light and Song" (Example 6.14). It was at this point in the creative process that I had second thoughts about the other hymn, "Walk in the Light." The latter was not march-like and sounded more comical than noble when treated like one. So I turned to the hymn, "Jesus Is My Light and Song," for other ideas (Example 6.15).

### Example 6.14



### Example 6.15



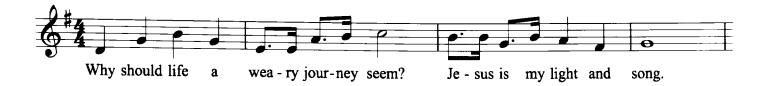
The Salvation Army tried to intervene and help Mary but the nice stranger does not like this so she quickly marches Mary away from The Salvation Army.

There is another change of scene at b.235, heralded by a quirky  $B^{\flat}$  Bass solo and accompanied by muted trombones in E minor. It is a den of thieves which is home to the nice stranger. The hymn, "Jesus Is My Light and Song" (Example 6.16),

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>67</sup> Composer unknown, Jesus is My Light and Song, The Salvation Army Tune Book No.701, Salvationist Publishing & Supplies Ltd., London, 1987

is the basis of more material in the form of the melody that appears in b.240 in muted solo cornet (Example 6.17).

#### Example 6.16



### Example 6.17



This treatment of the tune has a bizarre nature to it and reflects the bizarre nature of events being portrayed on screen. The music at this point is in the style of screen music by Danny Elfman, such as *Batman*<sup>68</sup> and *Alice in Wonderland*<sup>69</sup>. As the drama continues to unfold on screen the music continues further into the world of the bizarre. In b.253 the texture fills out to include the entire band, still in E minor. There are basically three layers in the texture:

1. Melody - Solo cornets, 2<sup>nd</sup> baritone, euphonium

2. Bass & accompaniment - horns, trombones, and basses

3. Descending chromatic scale - soprano, 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> cornets, flugel horn,

1<sup>st</sup> baritone, piano and xylophone

<sup>68</sup> Danny Elfman, Batman (Original Motion Picture Score Inc.), Warner Bros. Records Inc., 1989

<sup>69</sup> Danny Elfman, Alice In Wonderland, Walt Disney Records, 2010

This third layer is circus-like in nature and further emphasizes the strange events unfolding on screen. Alexandre Desplat used this kind of circus idea in his score for *The Ghost Writer*<sup>70</sup> and I really like the sense of comedy it brings to a situation. The nice lady, as it turns out, is a shoplifter and she is trying to recruit Mary. Things continue to spiral out of control. The shop lifter lifts up her skirt to reveal her petticoats and the goods she has stolen that day. To underline this strange event musically, I treated the tune in a semi-burlesque manner at b.261 with a slower tempo (Example 6.18), evocative triplets, a ripping horn melody and drum set, complete with a hard ride cymbal on beats 2 & 4.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>70</sup> Alexandre Desplat, The Ghost Writer (Original Motion Picture Soundtrack), Varèse Sarabande, 2009



At b. 271 Mary has had enough and flees from the thieves, and so begins the chase! At b.272 the music turns into a presto J=168 and is essentially chase music as the thieves try to get Mary back. It is based on two main themes, Mary's theme and an augmented version of a fragment of "Jesus Is My Light and Song" Soprano cornet, solo cornets and euphonium at b.273 use material from the opening credit music at b.9 & 10. The chase develops with the use of triplets. Mary runs straight into the arms of The Salvation Army as they lead an open air meeting. The triplets take over at b.280 signifying a tug of war as the thieves try to get Mary back. Material from the opening credits (b.9-10) is transcribed into the low brass and piano and has a much more ominous feel to it, adding to the uncertainty of what is being portrayed on screen. At b.286 the texture is made up of three layers:

- Melody rising minor 3<sup>rd</sup> in augmentation from, Jesus is My Light and Song
- 2. Bass line material from b.9-10
- 3. Punctuating cornets material based on rising minor 3<sup>rd</sup> from,

  Jesus is My Light and Song

On the last of the rising 3<sup>rd</sup> figures the full band joins in and a climax is reached at b.292 in D major. This climax on a major chord is the indication the thieves have given up and left Mary in the hands of The Salvation Army. Immediately following this bar is a recapitulation to material from the opening credits, b.16-17. While this is a recapitulation it is also another reference to The Salvation Army marching on

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>71</sup> Composer unknown, Jesus is My Light and Song, The Salvation Army Tune Book No. 701, Salvationist Publishing & Supplies Ltd., London, 1987

screen. The percussion instrumentation has changed on the recapitulation to include the instruments that are used on the march, two tambourines, crash cymbal, and snare drum, all orchestrated in marching rhythms.

The recapitulation continues with the original piano rag. This is an indication that the scene has changed, to another bar scene. The rag follows the same form as before:

A – piano & B<sup>b</sup> bass b.309-316

A – repeated in full band b.317-324

B – lightly scored b.325-332

During this music Bob shows up at the bar, freshly released from prison. His old friends are planning a robbery and he is interested. Mary, now a Salvationist, shows up to collect money for the poor at the bar. She is unaware Bob is there. On what should be the repetition of B in the rag, Mary's eyes meet Bob's and time stands still — as does the music in bars 334-336. Under these sustained chords is a hint of material from the original shooting.

Mary's theme returns at b.337 in the original key, as she and Bob catch up.

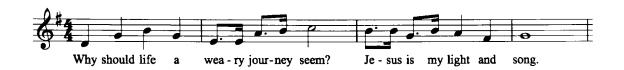
Mary can see Bob is with the other thieves in the bar and she pleads with him not to be involved. She prays for his soul in the bar and Bob laughs at her and leaves. She runs off to try to save him.

At bar 389, new material and a new scene are introduced. Bob and his friends are trying not to draw attention to themselves as they sneak out of the bar to

commit a robbery. The music is slightly quirky and mysterious to reflect this.

However, the material is not entirely new. It was partially derived from previous material. The solo cornet part is derived from, "Jesus Is My Light and Song"<sup>72</sup>

(Example 6.19), and the piano part at b.389 (Example 6.20), comes from the chorale at b.87.



<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>72</sup> Composer unknown, Jesus is My Light and Song, The Salvation Army Tune Book No. 701, Salvationist Publishing & Supplies Ltd., London, 1987



The music and characters sneak around in G minor until in b.397 another chase scene erupts. This time Mary is chasing after Bob to stop him from taking part in the robbery. The material used in this chase scene is different than the previous one. There are three layers in the texture:

- 1. Basses & Piano 3 note ostinato from b.87
- 2. Flugel horn & horns falling major 3<sup>rd</sup> figure from, "Jesus Is My Light and Song."
- 3. Cornets meandering 16ths centered around D

Together these figures add tension and intrigue as the chase continues. Bar 405 sees a return to the material of the first chase scene (b.286) as Mary pleads with Bob.

The music is impassioned with the falling bass figure. It originates in the opening credits at b.9. Bob throws Mary to the ground and runs off to commit a robbery.

Bar 413 is a new scene – the robbery. There is a lot of creeping around on screen and the music reflects this with similar material from b.389. Bars 423-430 are a repeat of section 397 – 404. The main differences this time is the exclusion of the meandering 16ths in the cornets. Also the dynamics are much softer, and it is a gradual crescendo throughout the section, finally arriving at fortissimo at b.437.

Bar 431-438 is a repeat of bars 405-412. During this section Bob comes to his senses. He cannot get Mary out of his head and he is unable to follow through with the robbery. He runs back to help Mary.

Bar 439 sees the return of Mary's theme in a major setting this time – C major, (Example 6.21). It is the most tender setting of the theme up to this point, reflecting Bob's love for Mary.

### Example 6.21



The music in this section is a duet between soprano cornet and trombone, accompanied by horns and euphonium. There is a slight nod to Wilfred Heaton's, "My Treasure" in the last few bars of the duet.

Bar 455 is another new scene. Bob has carried the injured Mary to the local Salvation Army. The material here is another new treatment of the same thematic

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>73</sup> Wilfred Heaton, My Treasure, Festival Series No.167, Salvationist Publishing & Supplies Ltd., London, 1950

material. The horns use material from, "Jesus Is My Light and Song"<sup>74</sup> The open 5<sup>th</sup> rhythmic pedal on C is maintained for eight bars sustaining tension. There is a counter melody in the horns, piano and xylophone with a timpani part rich in syncopation, adding flavour to the cross rhythms already evident. At b.463 the eight bar texture is repeated up an augmented 4<sup>th</sup> to F<sup>#</sup>. This time the cornets are added with the same material as the horns but appear a bar earlier than the horns. The material supports the on screen action by acting as a quasi clock, with the repeated eighth notes, as the characters try to figure out what happened to Mary and how to help her. The pedal adds suspense which is not really lifted until b.473.

At b.471 there is a solo timpani moment as Mary points to one of the signs in the window at The Salvation Army, "God is my light." She is trying to convert Bob. In reverence, Bob removes his hat as Mark talks to him about God. The music at b.473 is a slow chorale version of the hymn, "Jesus Is My Light and Song" (Example 6.22). The dotted rhythms of the original melody have been altered to simple quarter and half notes.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>74</sup> Composer unknown, Jesus is My Light and Song, The Salvation Army Tune Book No.701, Salvationist Publishing & Supplies Ltd., 1987



As Mary is trying to convert Bob I chose to highlight the melody associated with the words, "Jesus is". Bob runs away, not wanting to make a commitment, and the song is never completed.

At b.485 the scene changes and we see Bob on the street at a Salvation Army open air meeting. The music at this point is a return to the clock-like pondering music from b.455 (Example 6.23). This is to highlight the fact that Bob is thinking about what Mary said. He is under conviction. In addition to the material of b.455,

there is a reference to the hymn tune and the moments he spent with Mary at the Salvation Army, heard in the solo cornet.



At b. 493 the eight bars are repeated a half step higher to  $F^{\sharp}$ , just as before.

However, the melody of the hymn becomes more insistent and is doubled in soprano cornet and euphonium. In b.496 the marching percussion commences as the Salvationists line up to march off to another location. The rhythm of this is a marching figure of four beats, but it is expressed within the triple meter already in motion. It covers the transition from ¾ to 4/4. The music at b.501 opens with the melody associated with the words, "Jesus is" and four bars later, "Jesus is my light." It appears Bob may have decided to make a commitment. He goes off screen in a very determined fashion, following The Salvation Army to their next street scene.

At b.508 the marching percussion commences again as The Salvation Army appears on the march. This section is in the style of a march and is a little more militant (Example 6.24). It is a little quirky in nature, reflecting the quirky group of early Salvationists portrayed on screen.



There is an obscure reference to a fragment of the piccolo solo in the John Philip Sousa march, "The Stars and Stripes Forever" (1897), at b.513, heard in soprano cornet, piano and xylophone. This is a musical nod to the appearance of the American flag, which is at the front of the Salvation Army march. At b.516 the material used in the march is now derived from the hymn tune, "Jesus Is My Light and Song" and a direct reference to the trombones in b.14 of the opening credits. Mary motions to the Salvationists to gather round and be quiet. The music becomes quiet on cue. At b.520 the preaching begins. To accompany this musically I reference the accompaniment from b.473, when Mary was telling Bob about God at The Salvation Army. This material has its origin in the original chorale that emerges at the shooting in b.87. At b.528 the melody of the hymn tune, "Jesus Is My Light and Song" is introduced in the solo cornets.

Bob finally decides to commit his life to Christ. The Salvationists form up and march off again. This is indicated by the marching percussion. As they march away we are left looking at the happy couple b.538. To express this happy moment musically, I chose Mary's theme treated in augmentation and material from the piano rag, also treated in augmentation in the piano and tubular bells (Example 6.25).

<sup>75</sup> John Philip Sousa, The Stars and Stripes Forever, The John Church Company, New York, 1897

Example 6.25



The movie ends with the couple walking off screen very slowly – digitally altered to allow for a satisfying conclusion with the music firmly established in  $A^{\flat}$  major. The

closing credits start at b. 561. The material for this is derived from the quirky militaristic march of the Salvationists at b.410 in F minor.

What happened to the music for the opening credits? The music for the opening credits was created after work on the movie had already begun. The piano rag and Mary's theme had already been written and worked out with the timings of the movie. However, it was very difficult to follow the story of the movie without story cards. So I wrote the story and corresponding story cards based on the visuals. I was able to find out a lot of information about the movie, including a list of the cast from the *IMDB* (*Internet Movie Data Base*)<sup>76</sup> website, which has a log of every movie ever created. The characters names are indeed the original names that D.W.Griffith intended. I enlisted the help of Stephen Ditmer, who created the stills of the credits and the story cards and inserted them into the movie. The addition of the story cards obviously wreaked havoc with the musical timing of events.

At the suggestion of Joseph Turrin, a friend and composition professor at Hartt School of Music, Connecticut, I asked Stephen Ditmer to burn the SMPTE time code (Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers) into the movie. This became vital for the timing of events. The time code reflects time from the smallest division of frames per second, to the largest – hours. "The Salvation Army Lass" was filmed at 16 fps (frames per second). So I abandoned the original map I had made in seconds, but used it instead as a loose guide for the story. By including the

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>76</sup> Internet Movie Data Base, The Salvation Army Lass, http://www.imdb.com/title/tt0001029/, 1990-2011

<sup>77</sup> D.W.Griffith, The Salvation Army Lass, American Mutoscope & Biograph, 1909

opening and closing credits and the story cards, I had added an additional three minutes to the movie, translating into three more minutes of music.

The material in the opening credits is based on the hymn tune, "Jesus Is My Light and Song"<sup>78</sup> in C major. It is written in a fanfare style, designed to catch the viewers' attention and to alert them that the movie has begun. At b.11-22 the hymn tune is handed around the band in a slightly comical manner (Example 6.26).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>78</sup> Composer unknown, Jesus is My Light and Song, The Salvation Army Tune Book No.701, Salvationist Publishing & Supplies Ltd., London, 1987



At b.23 there is another reference to the hymn tune in the solo cornets. From b.28-35 there is dialogue throughout the band as the phrase; "Jesus is my light and song"<sup>79</sup> is passed around. The texture thins out to just the euphonium, basses and tambourine, leading into the opening scene in the bar with the music of the original piano rag.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>79</sup> Composer unknown, Jesus is My Light and Song, The Salvation Army Tune Book No. 701, Salvationist Publishing & Supplies, Ltd., London, 1987

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## **PORTFOLIO OF COMPOSITIONS**

### **DOROTHY GATES**

SCHOOL OF MEDIA,

MUSIC AND PERFORMANCE

ADELPHI RESEARCH INSTITUTE

FOR CREATIVE ARTS AND SCIENCES (ARICAS)

UNIVERSITY OF SALFORD, SALFORD, UK

Submitted in Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements of the Degree of Doctor of Philosophy, April 2011

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# Another World









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II.



























































































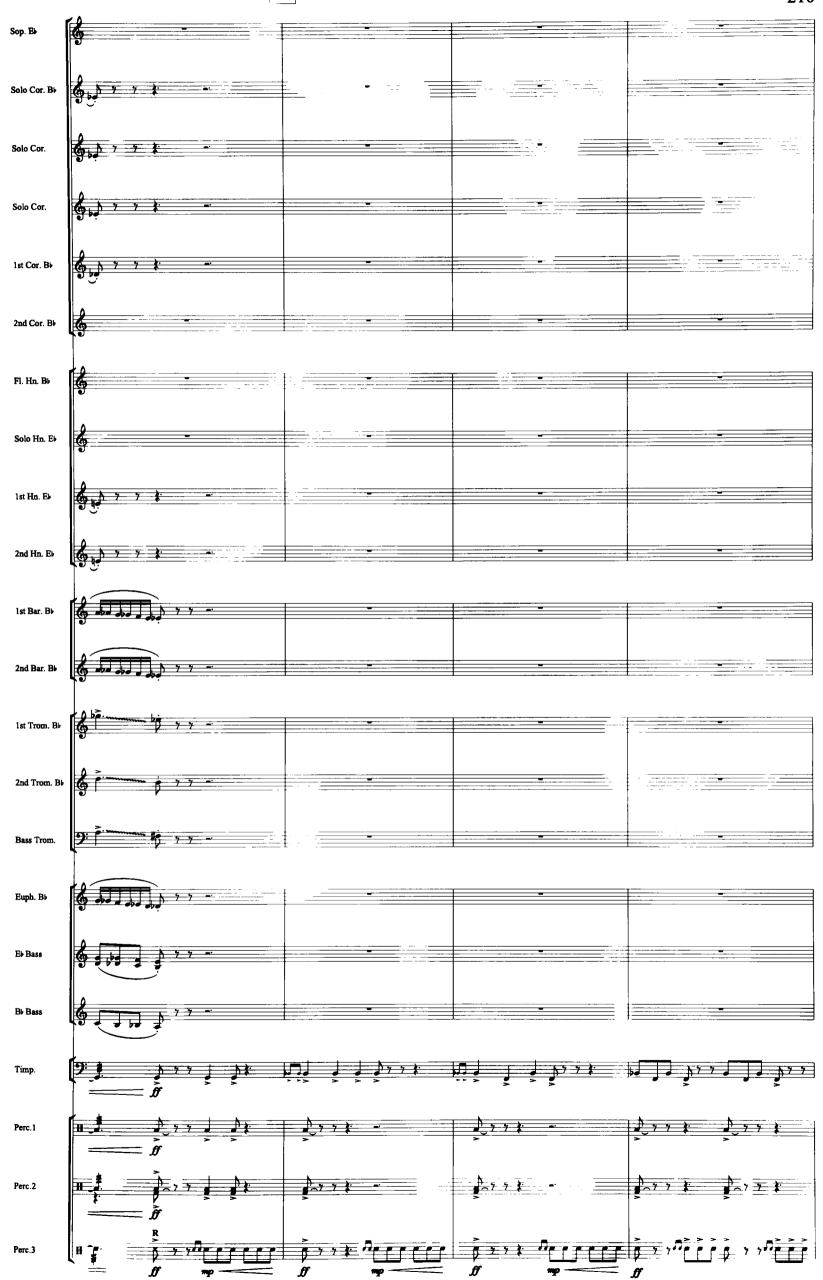










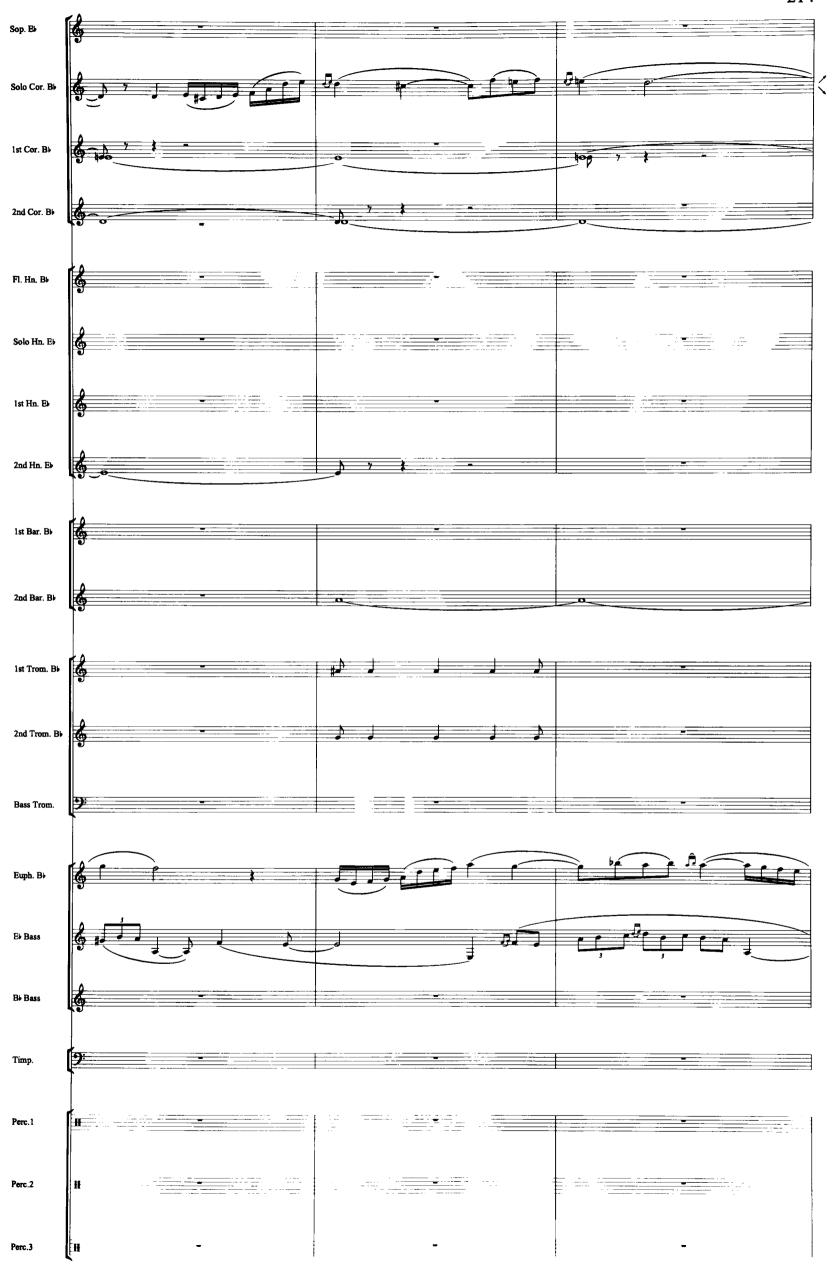






















































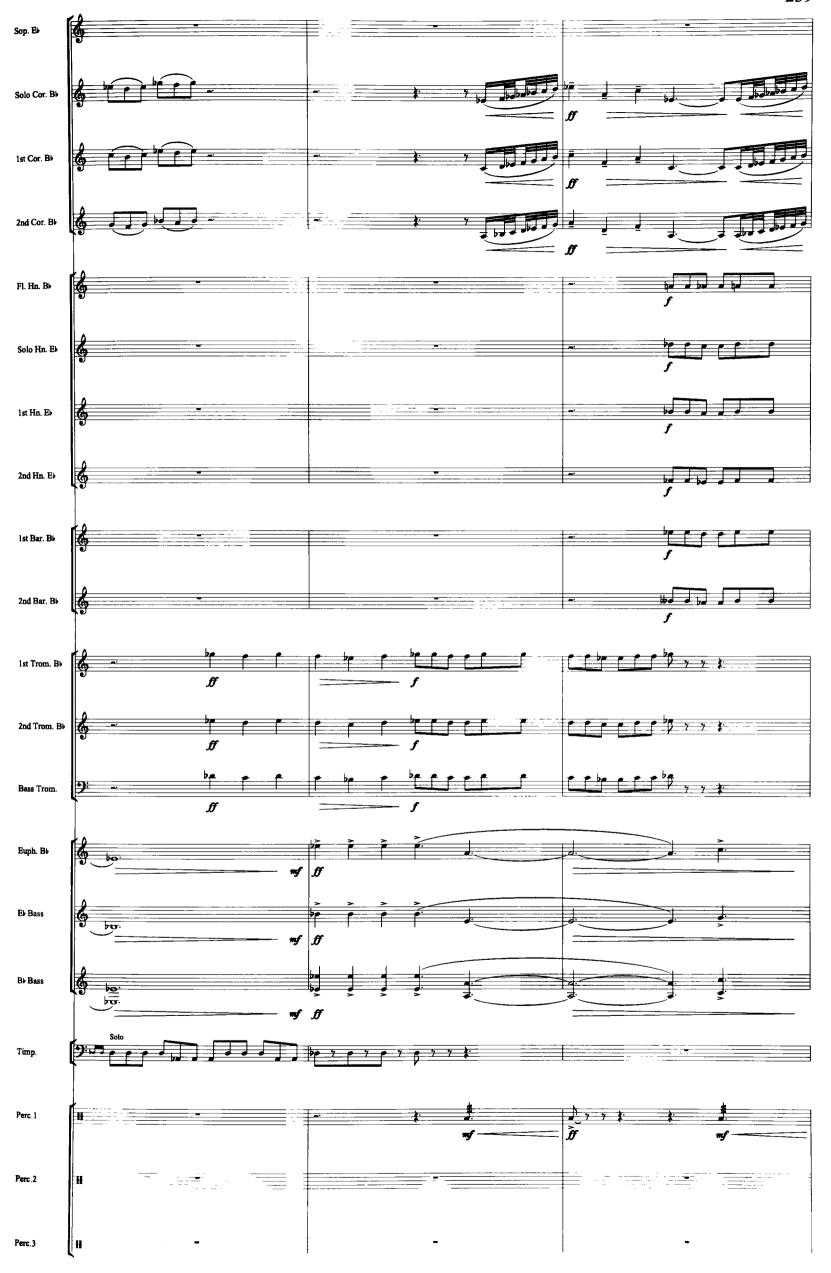












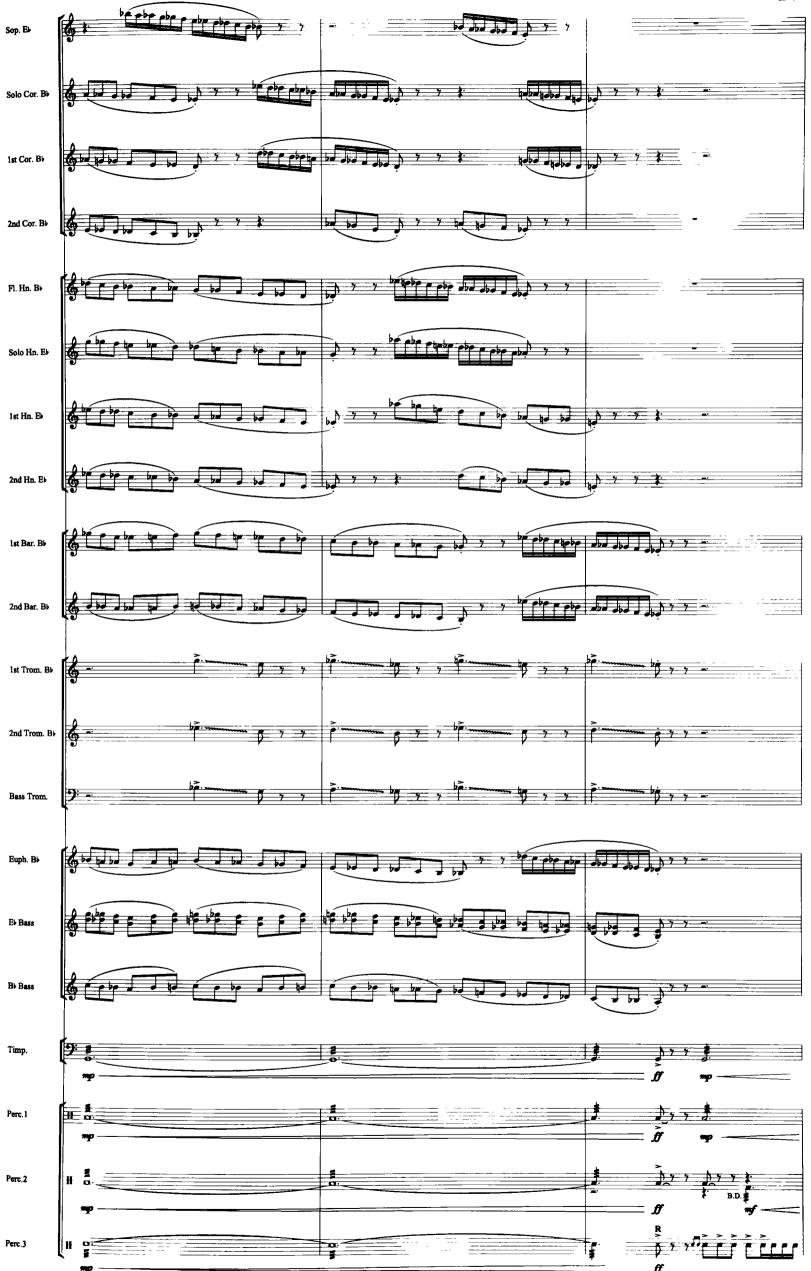


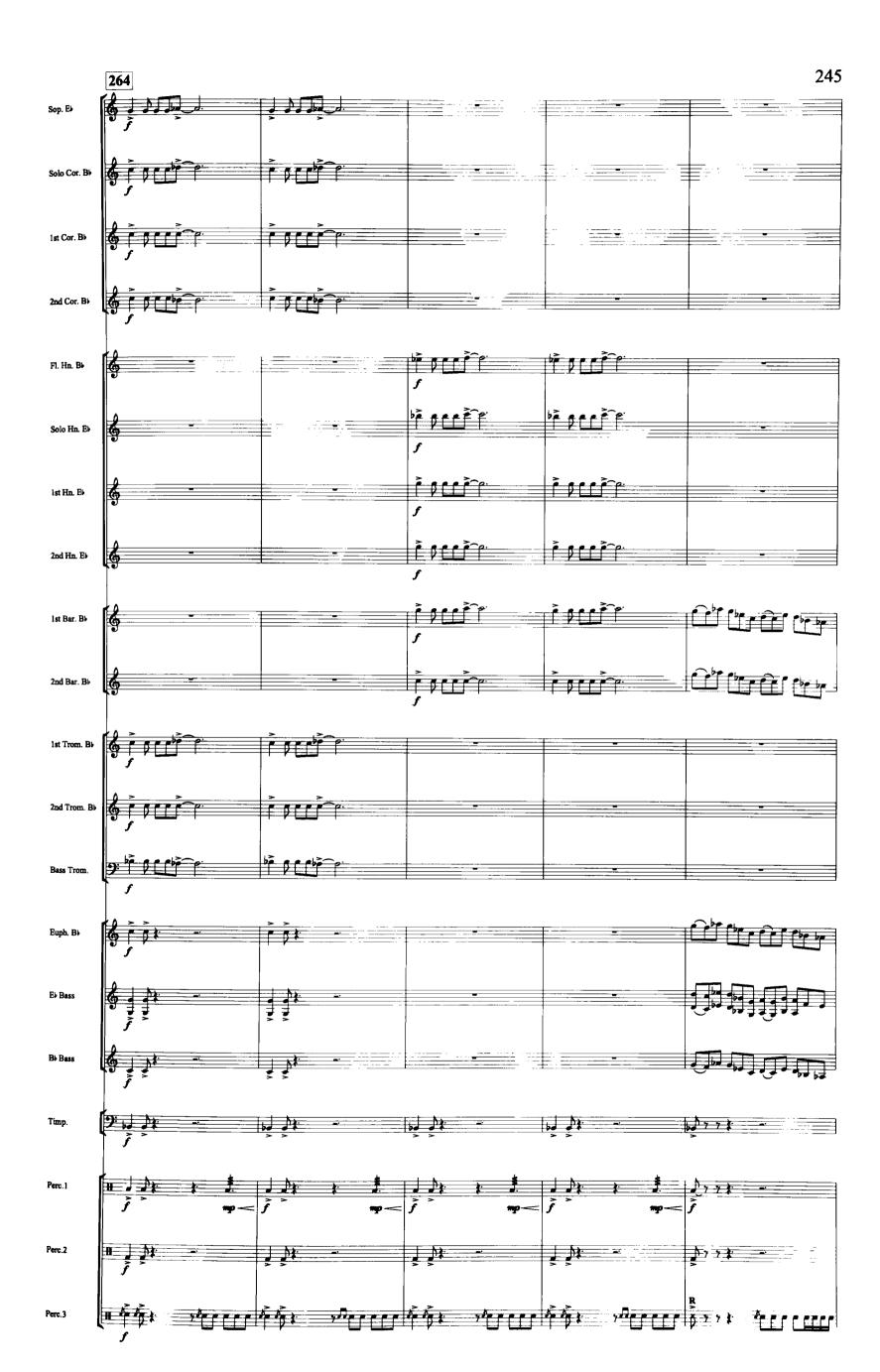




































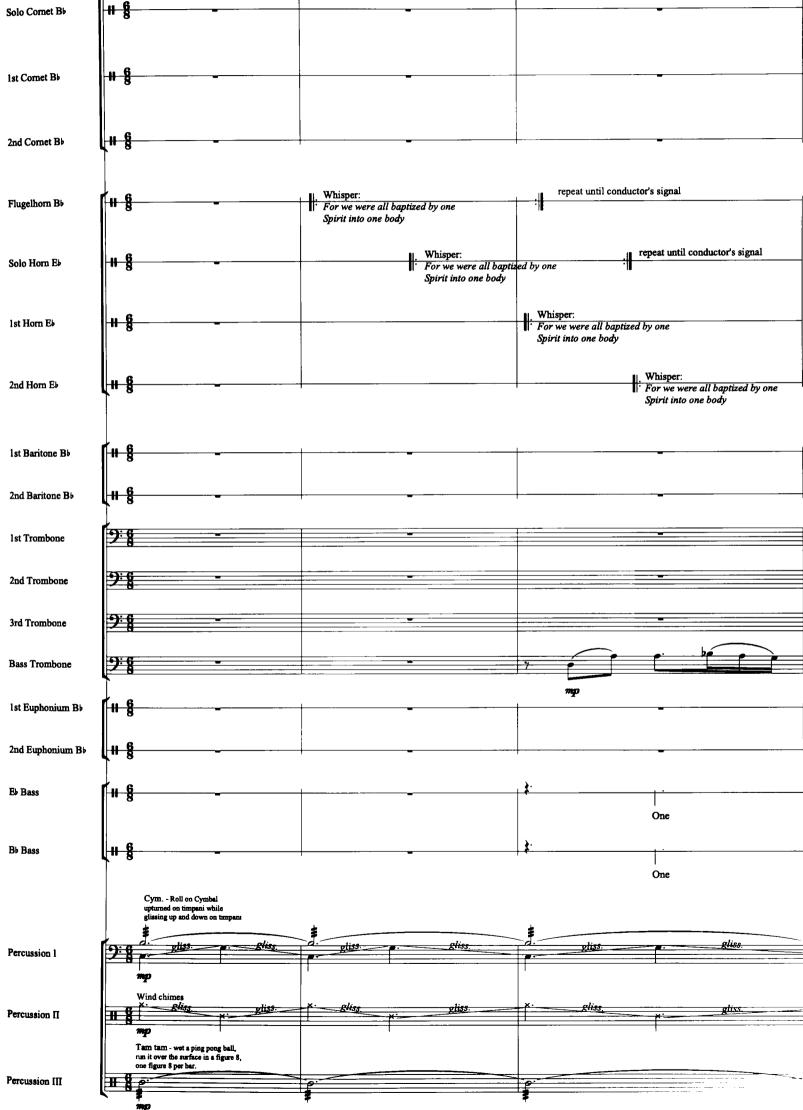
## **Soul Origin**

For Bones Apart & Enfield Citadel Band

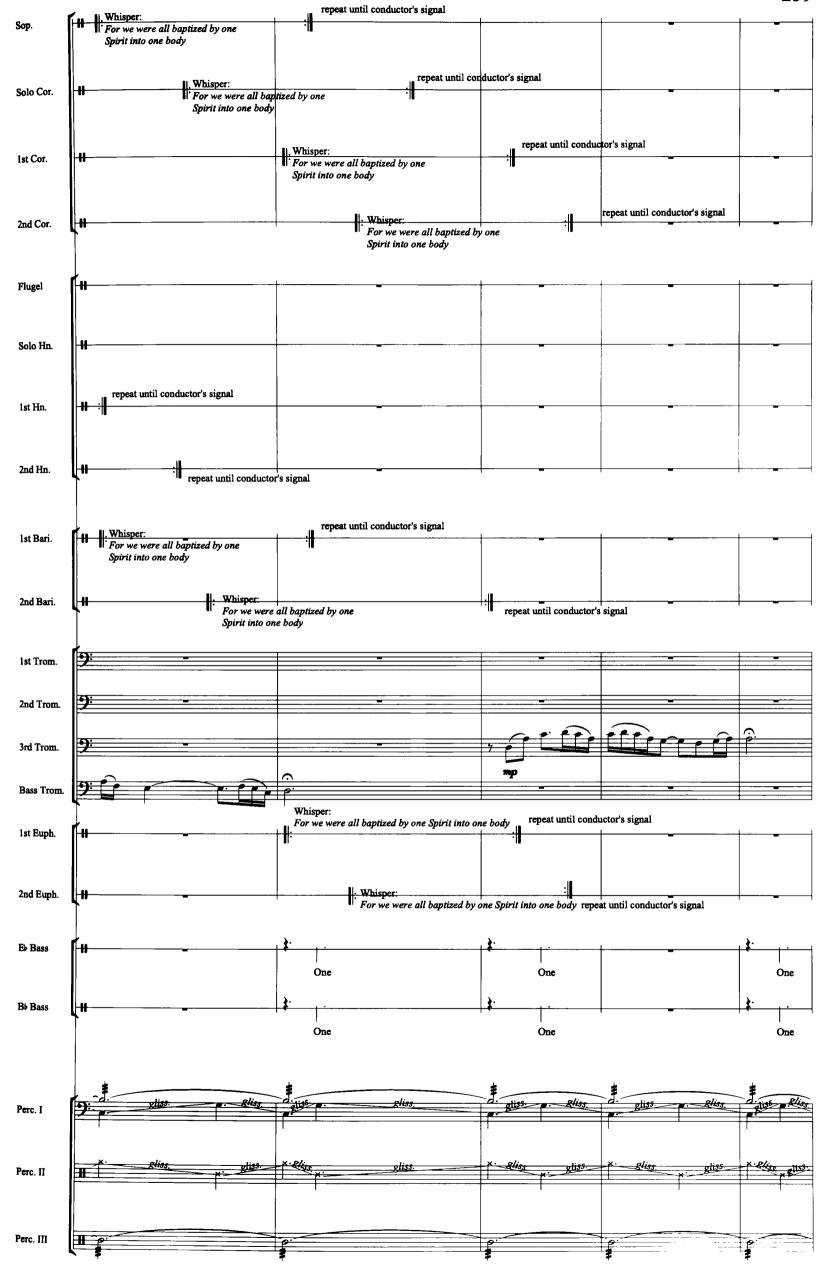
Misterioso e quasi recit. J = 38

Soprano Cornet Eb

**DOROTHY GATES** repeat until conductor's signal repeat until conductor's signal Whisper: Whisper:
For we were all baptized by one Spirit into one body One One gliss.



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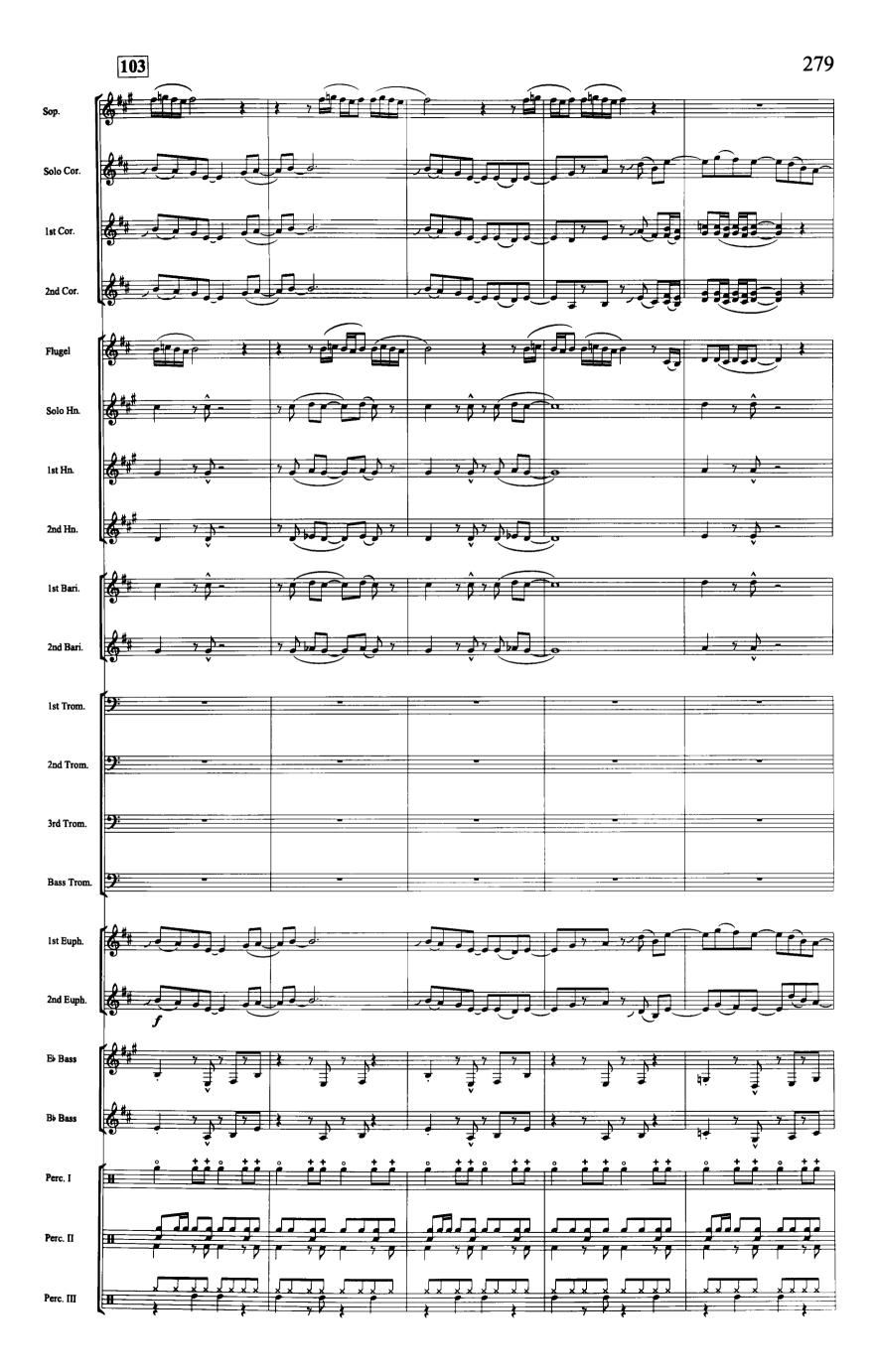
















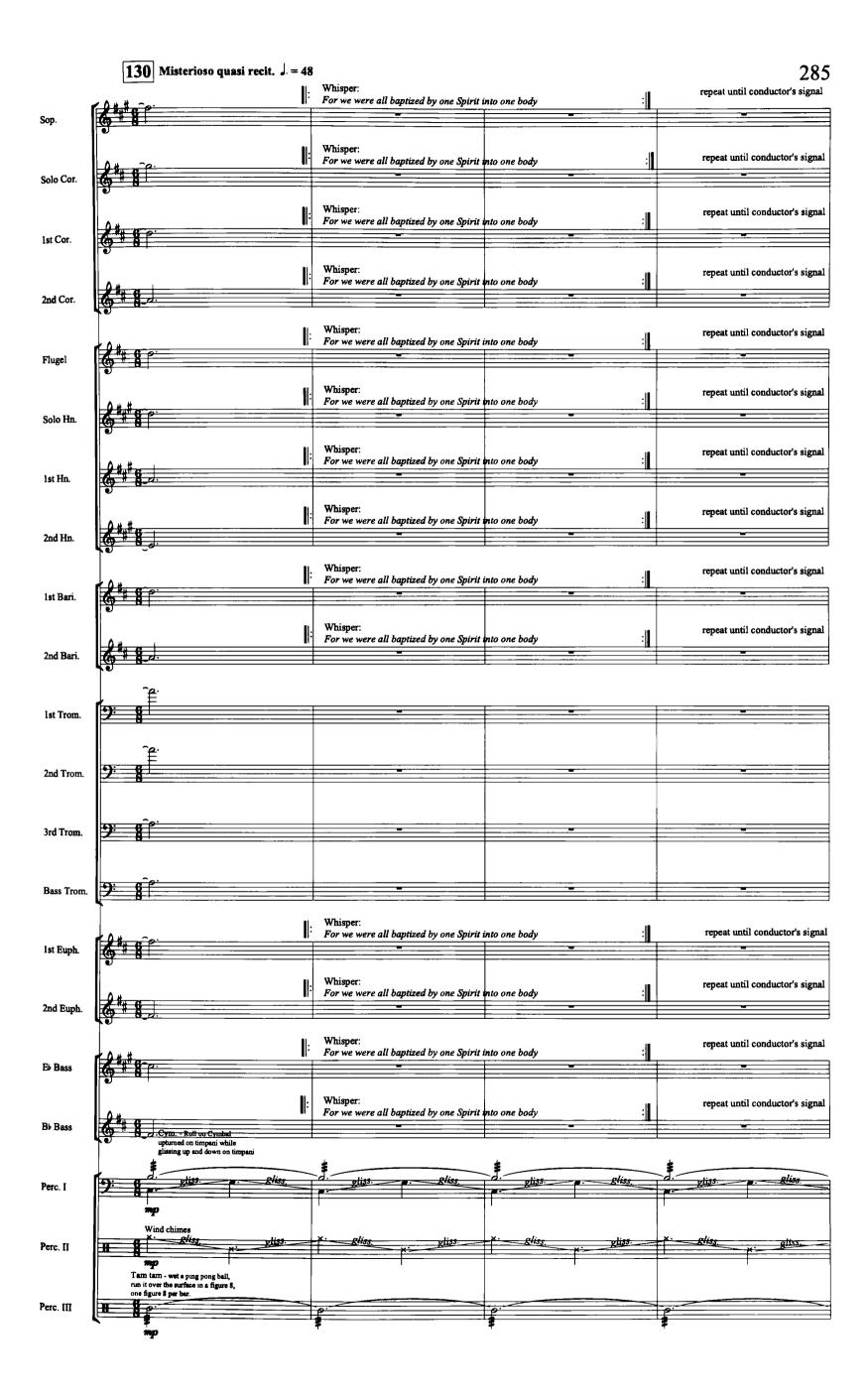














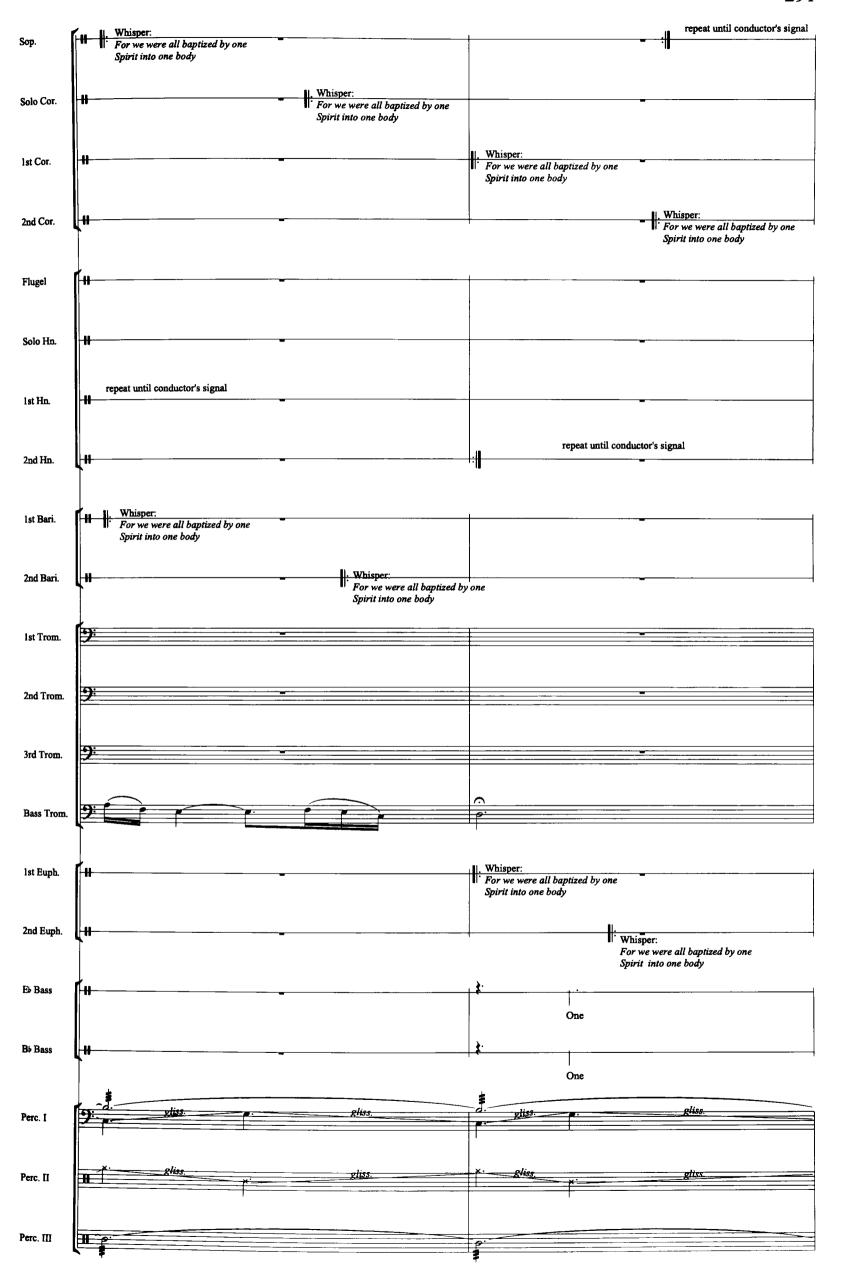


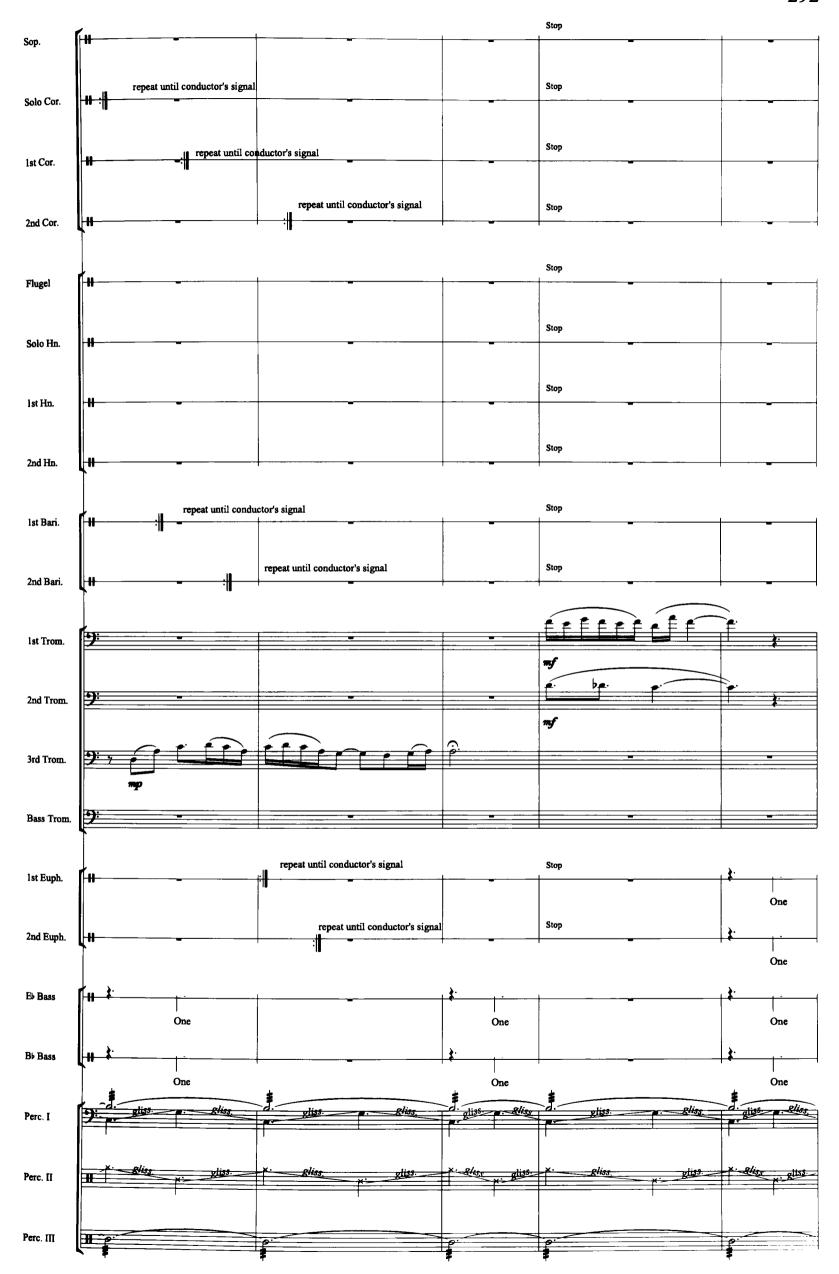




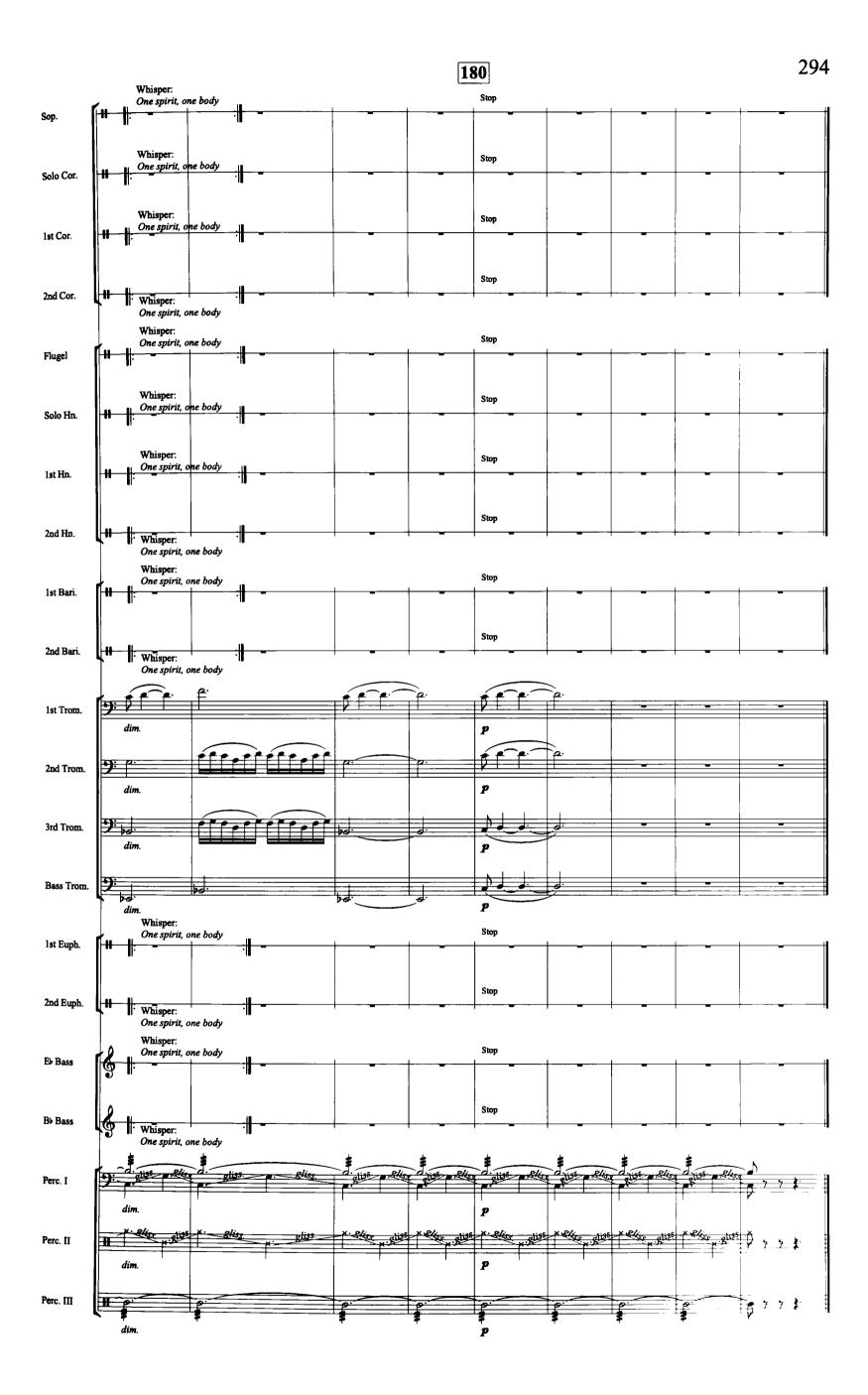






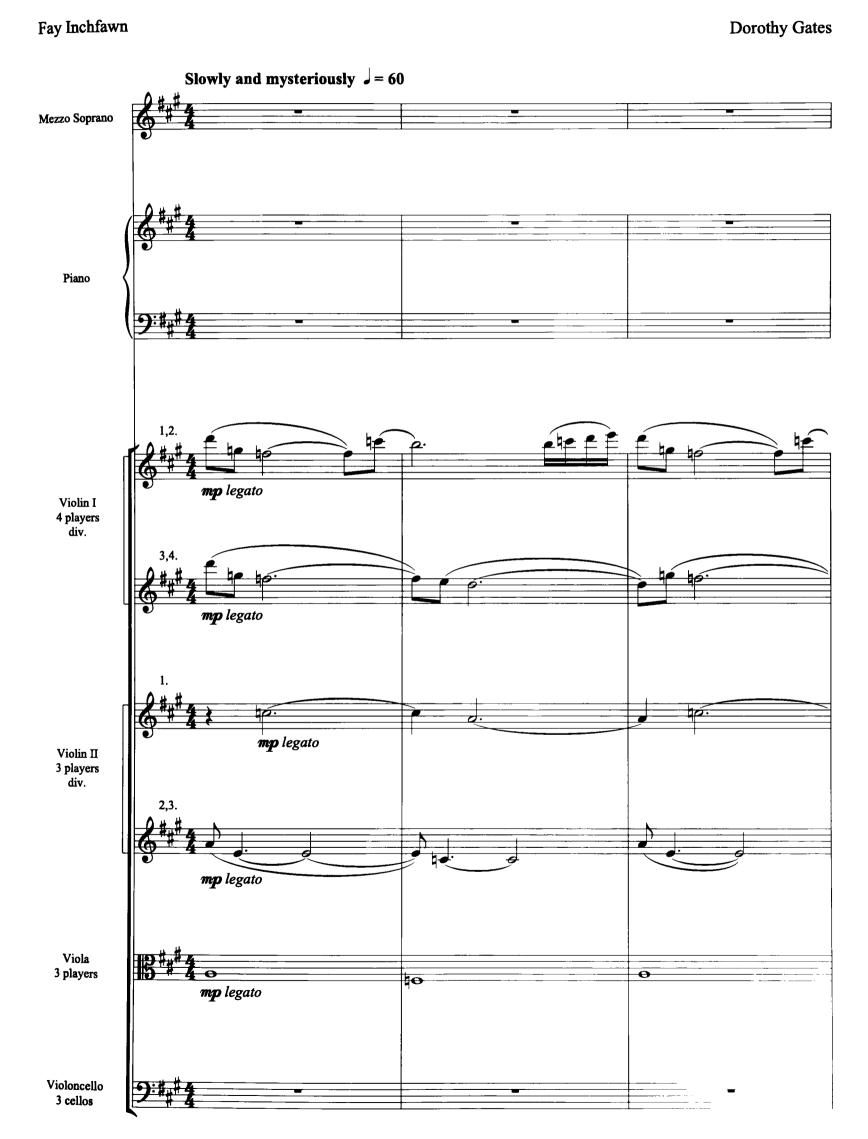




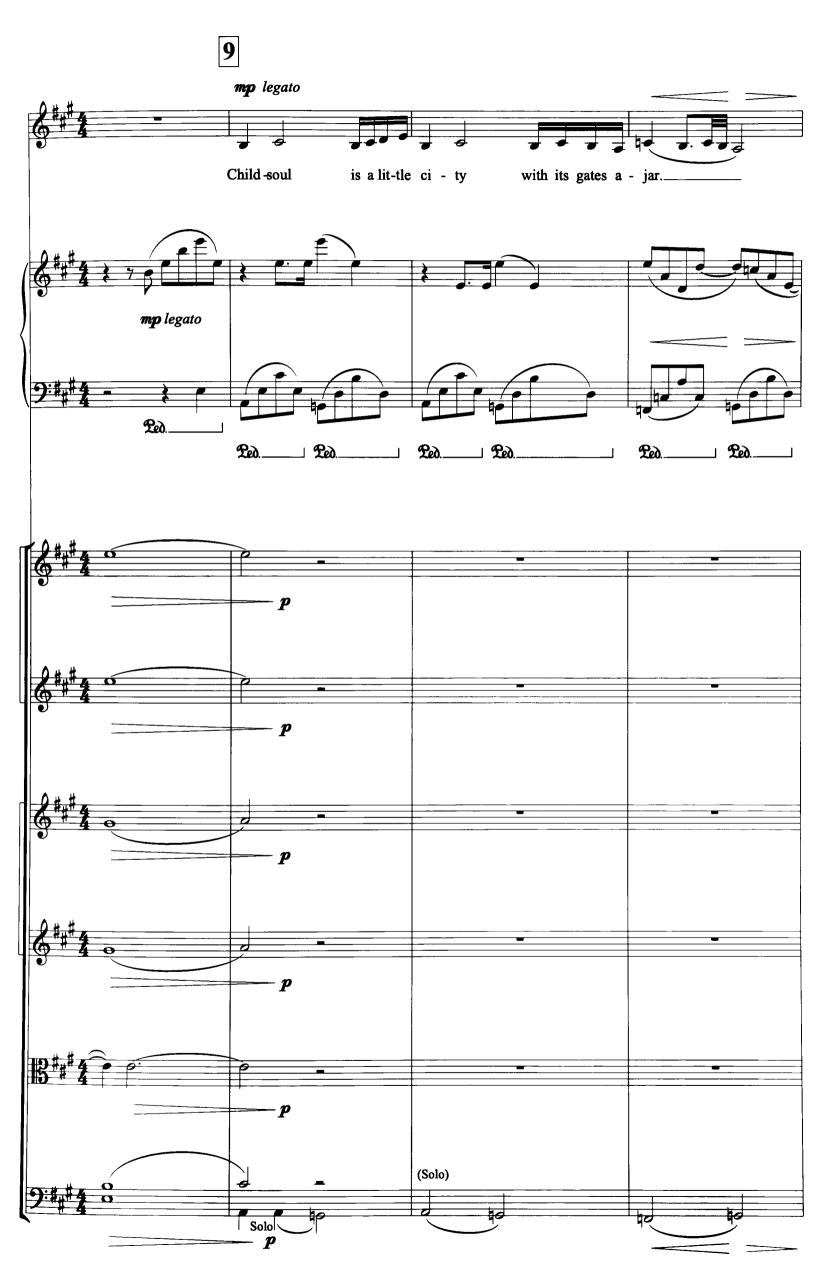


## SONG CYCLE - UNSEEN THINGS

## I. Child-Soul



























Child-Soul





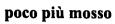




















## II. The Flight of the Fairies

Fay Inchfawn Dorothy Gates



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The Flight of the Fairies





























The Flight of the Fairies

























## III. The Home Lights



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The Home Lights



The Home Lights





The Home Lights









The Home Lights





The Home Lights





























## Soul Reflections

I. The Creek & The Stars









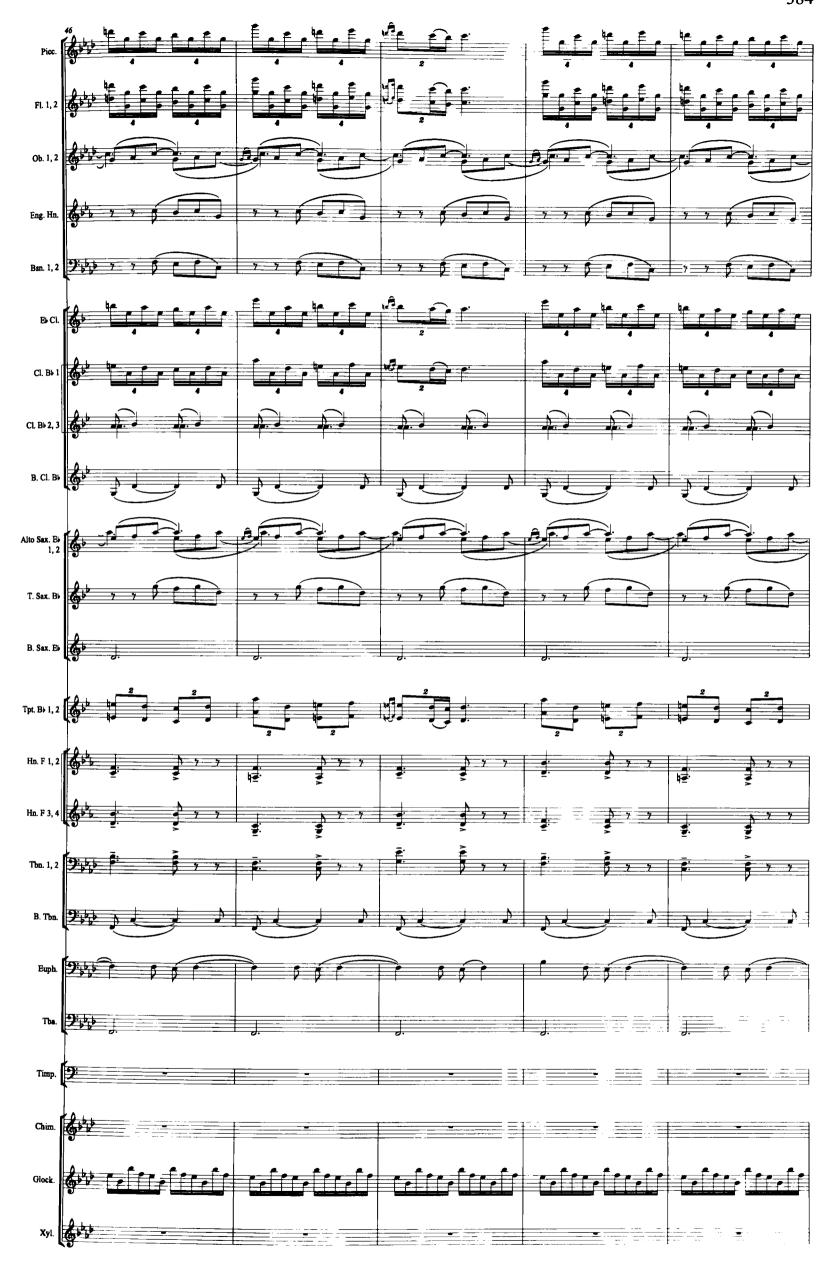








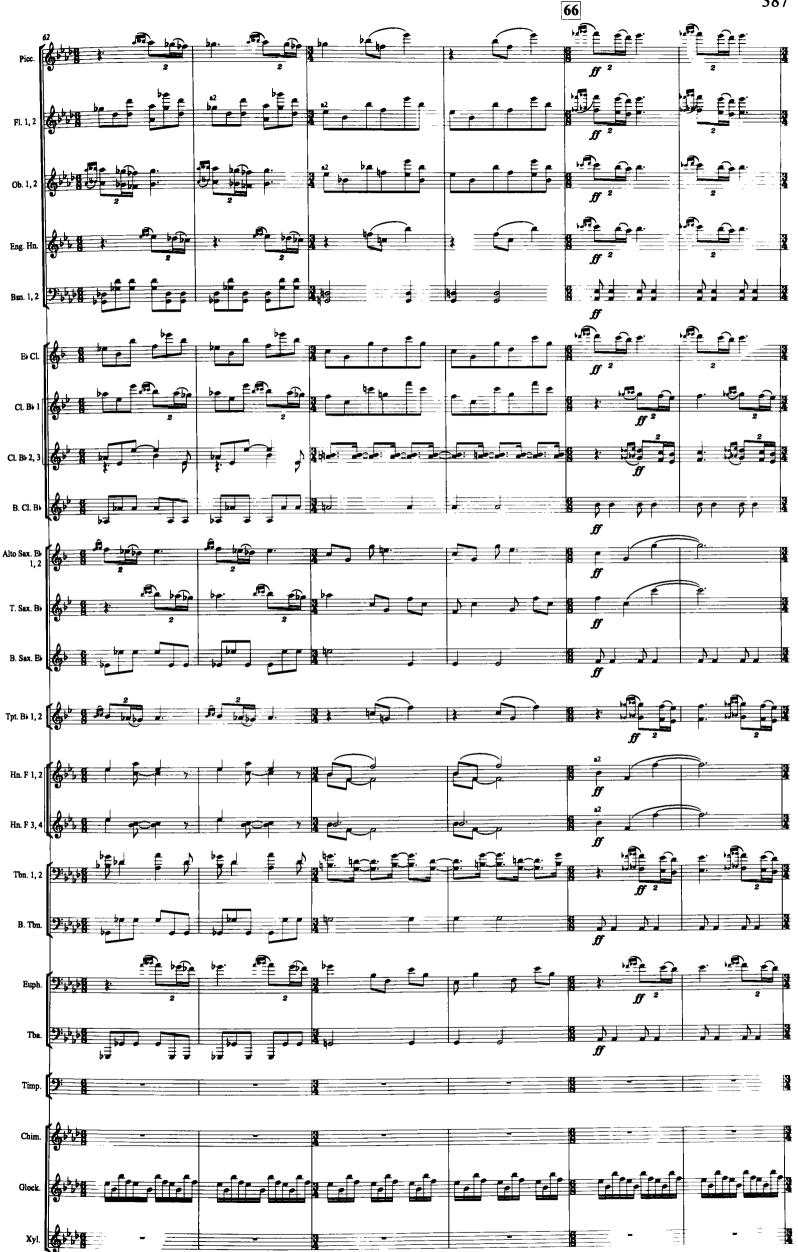






















## II. The Silent Articulation of a Face



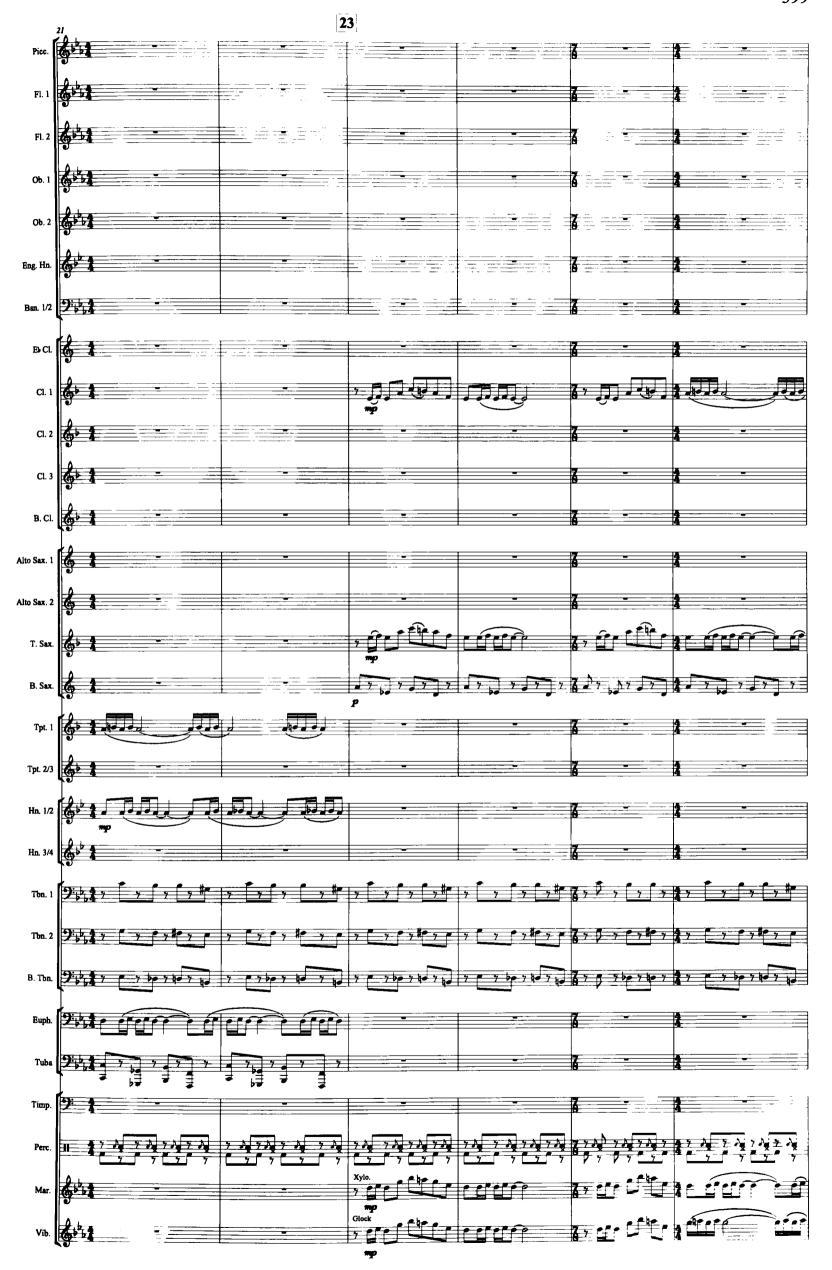




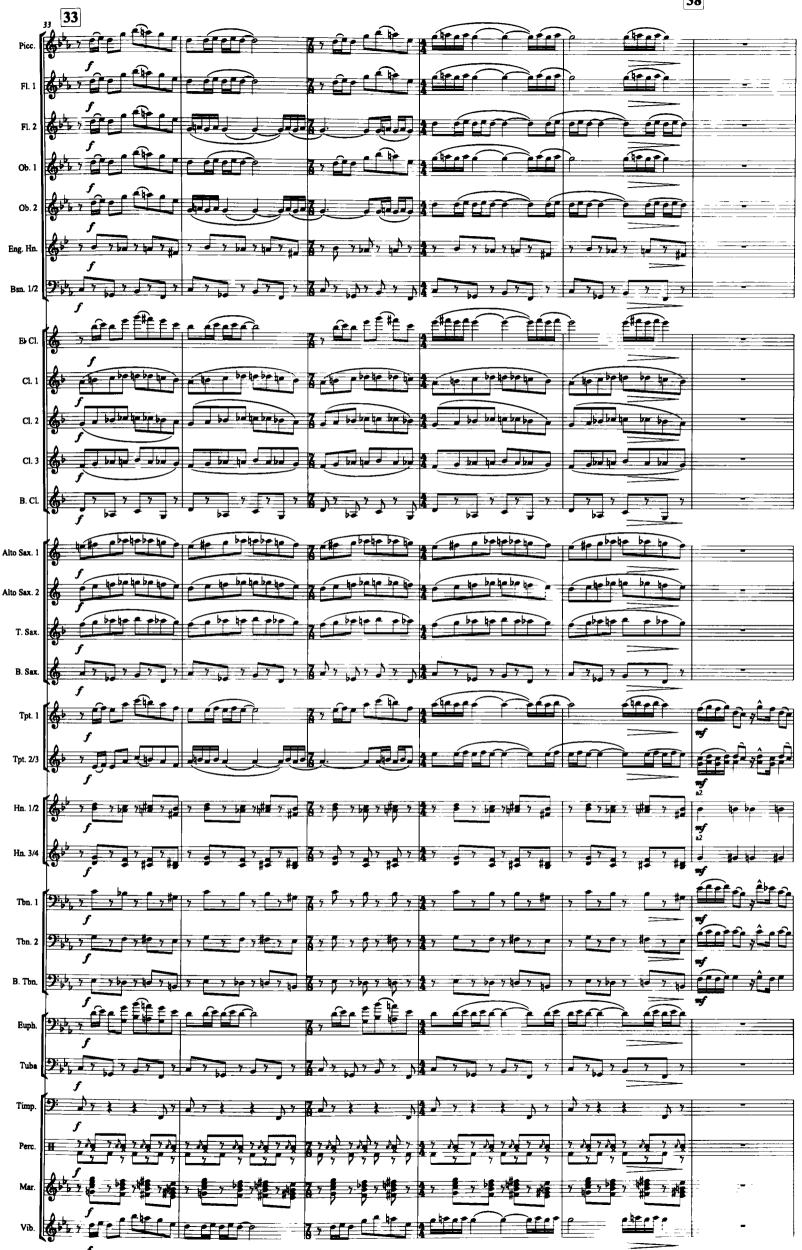






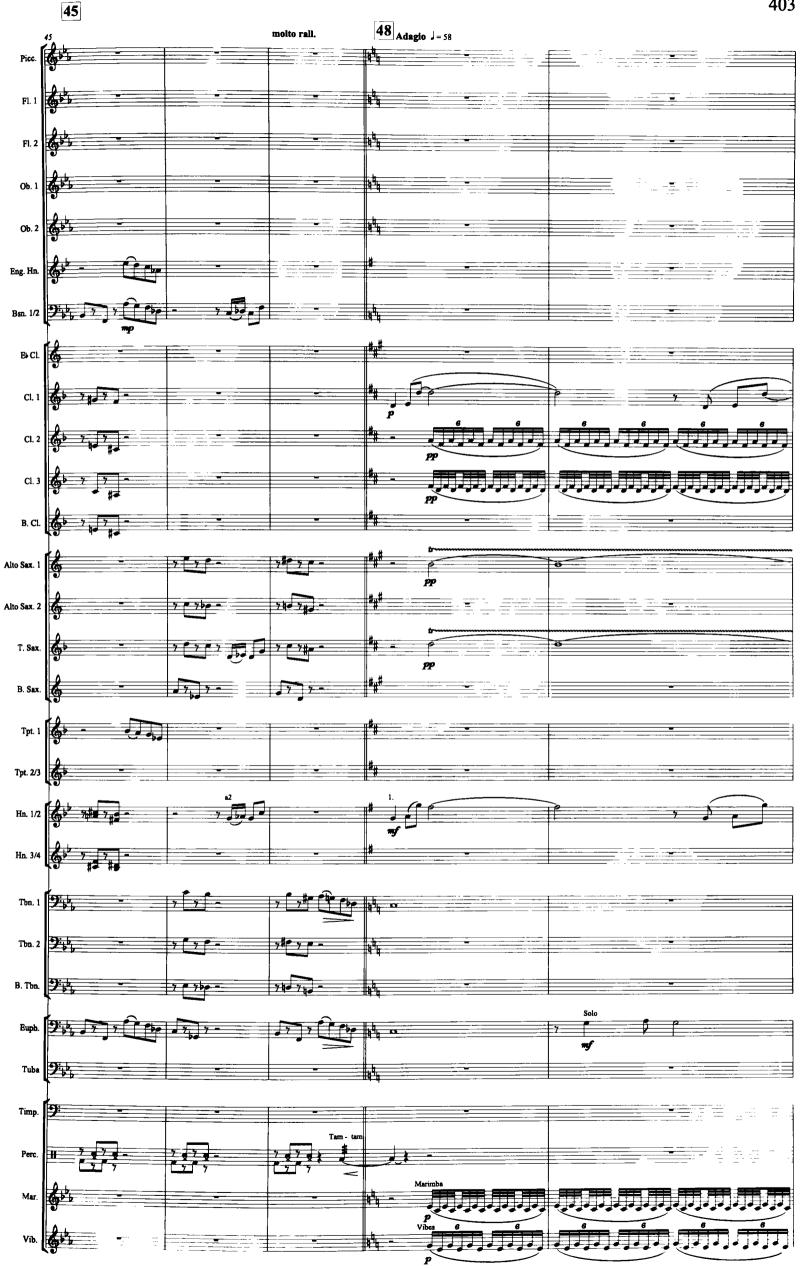








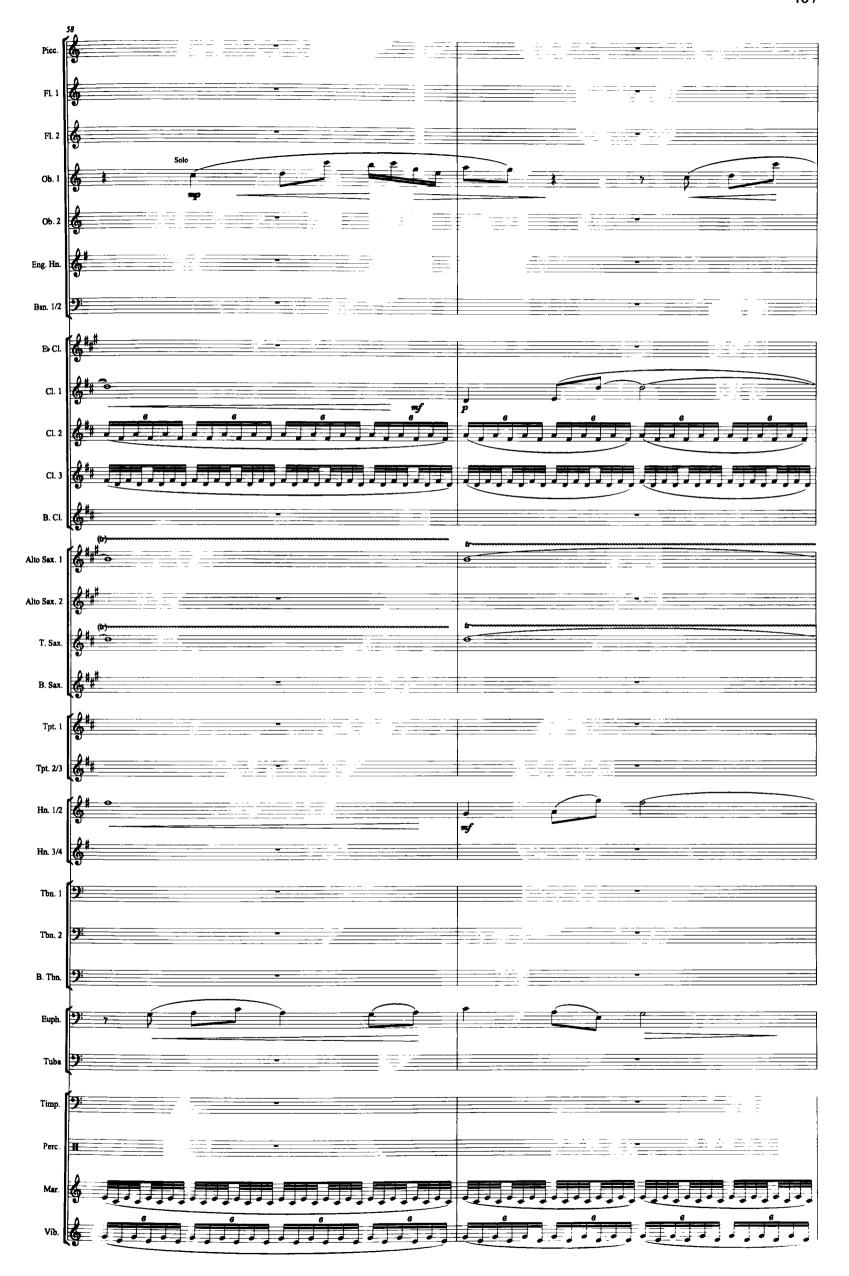




















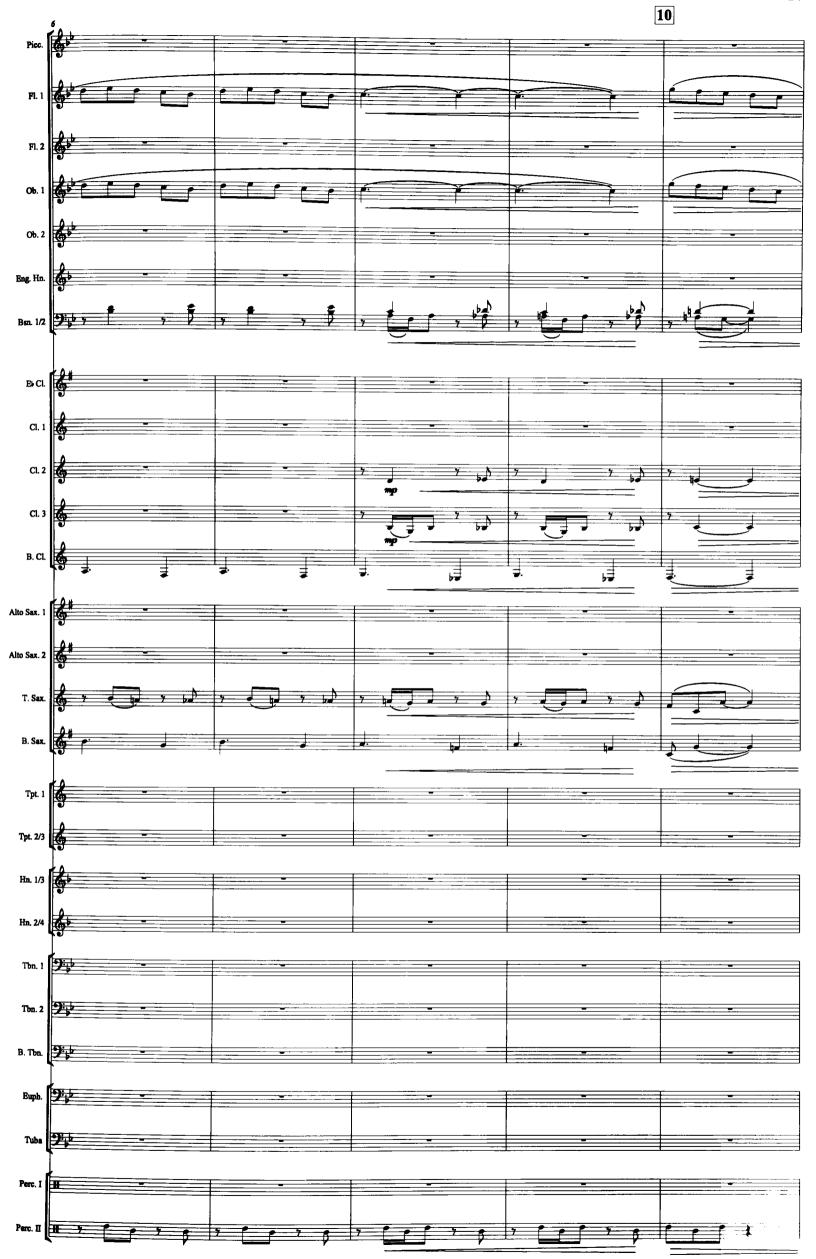








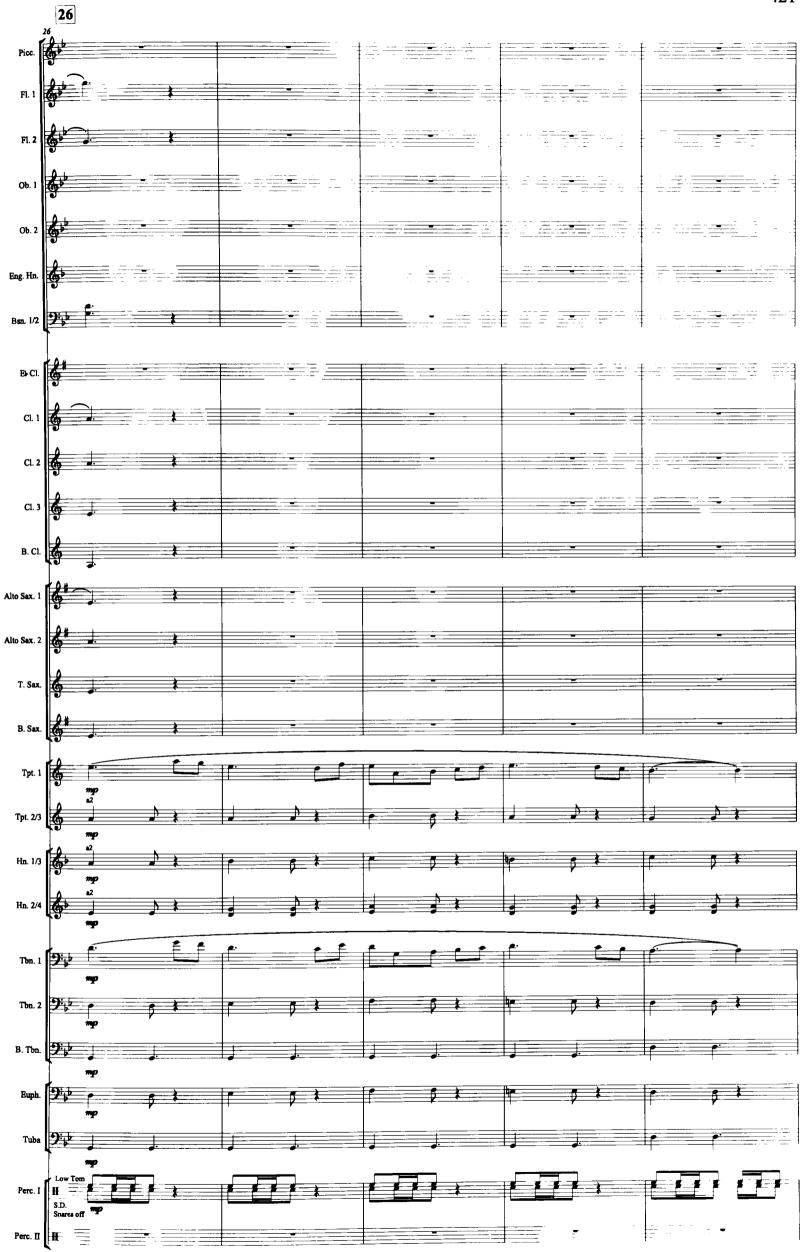














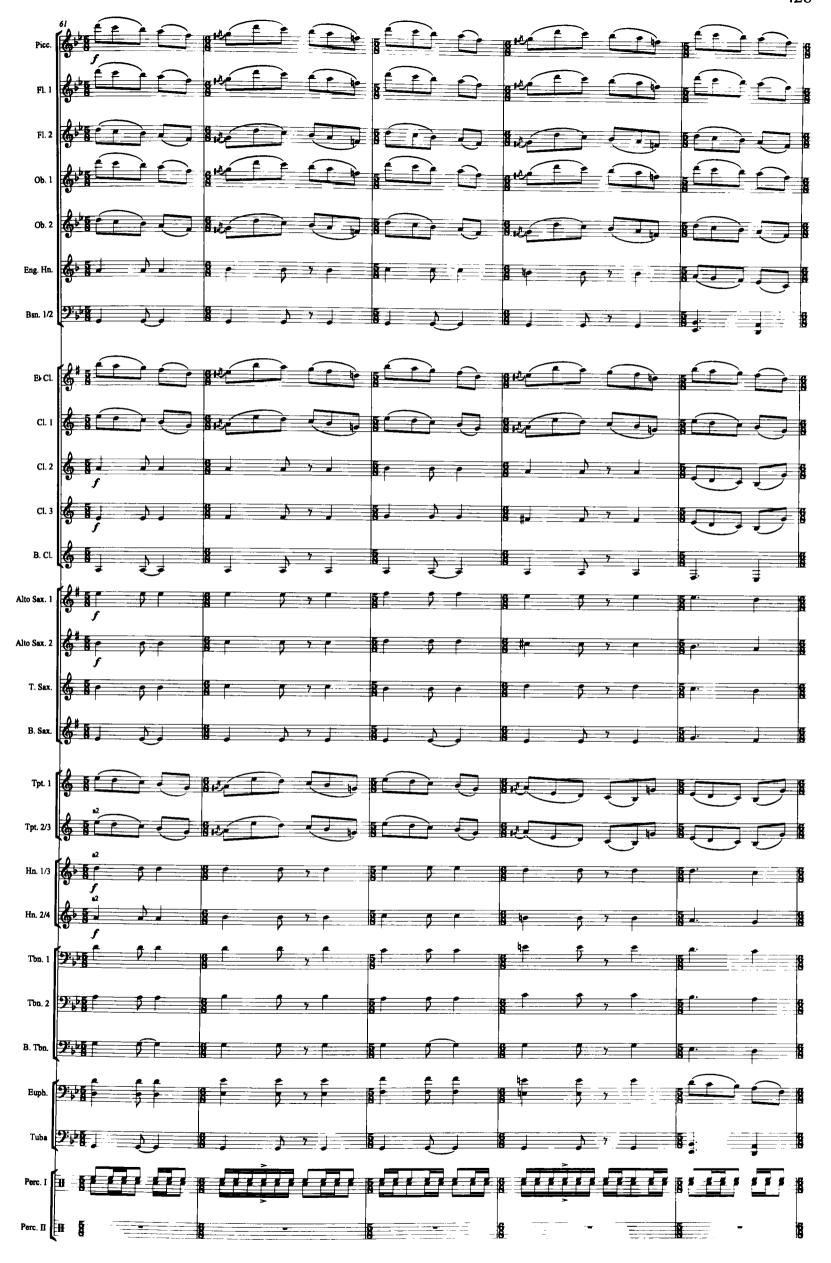






























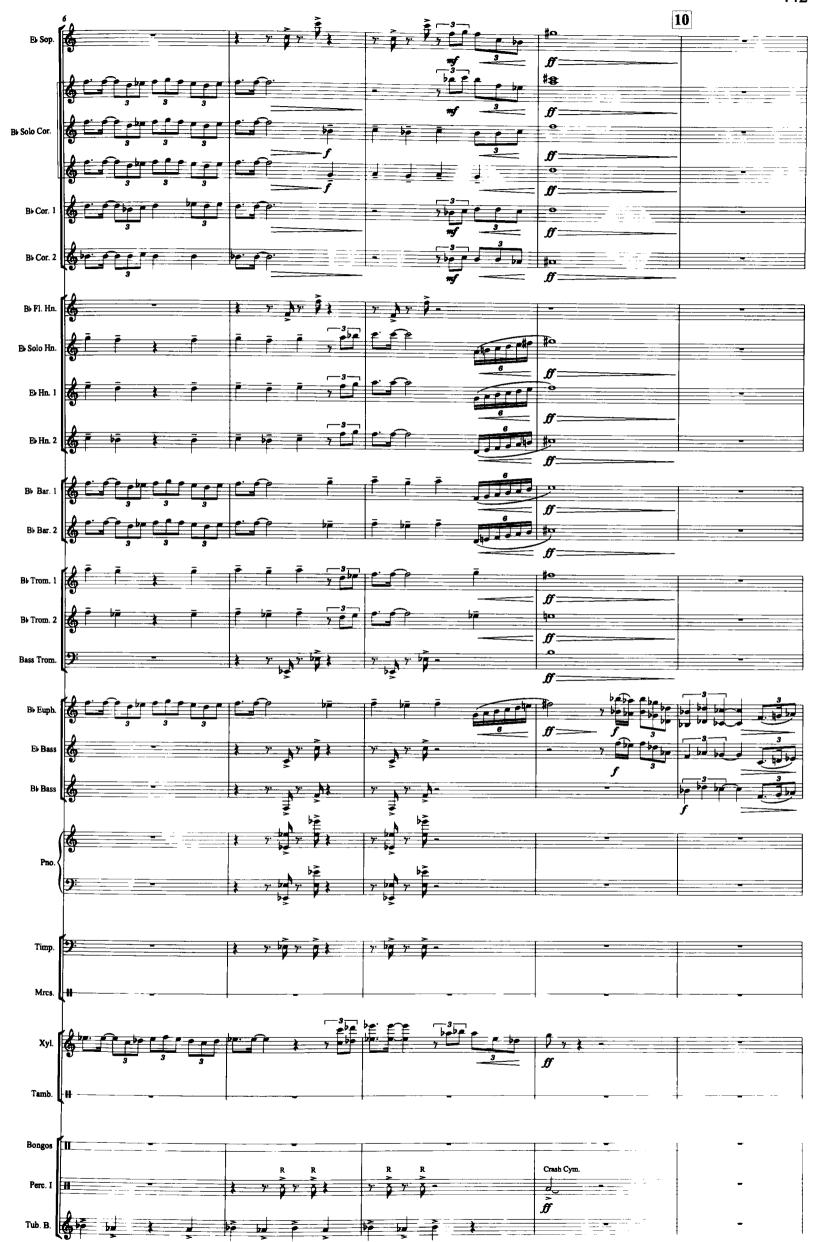






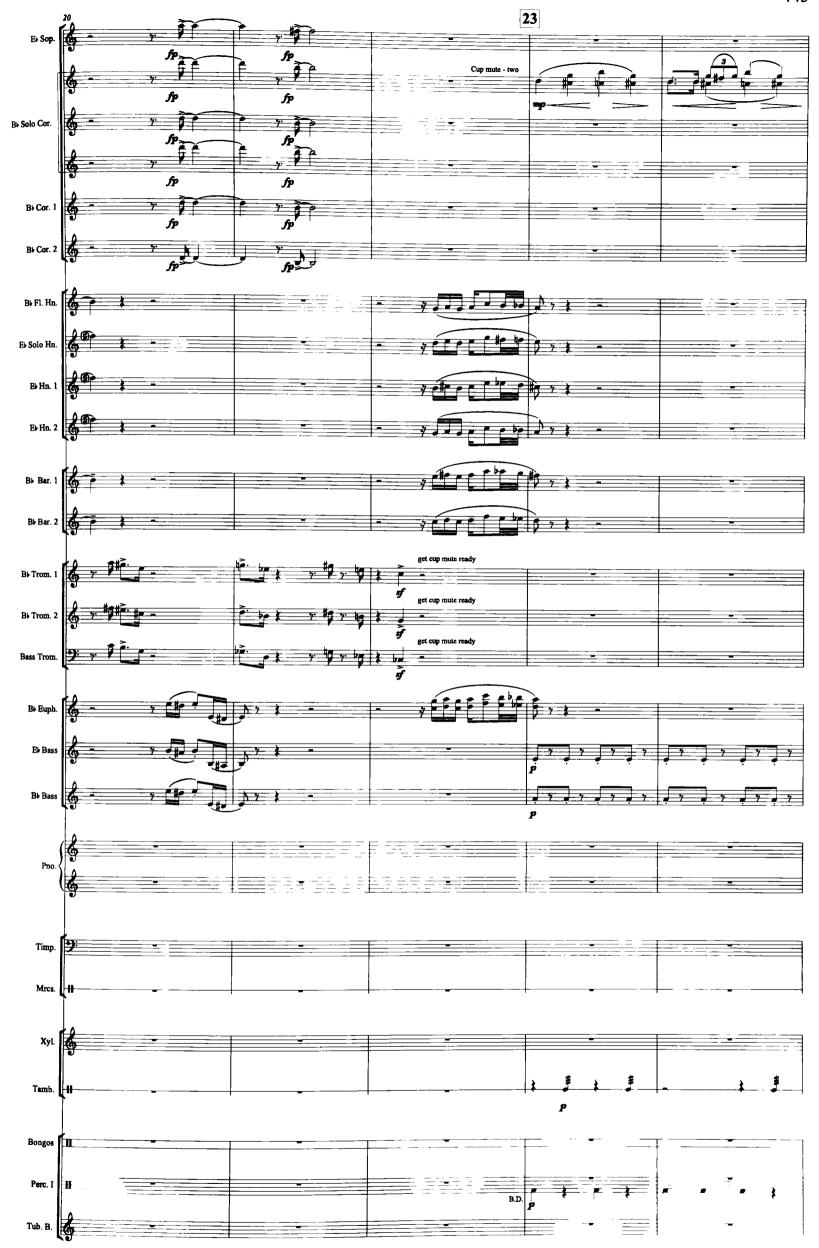
## The Salvation Army Lass

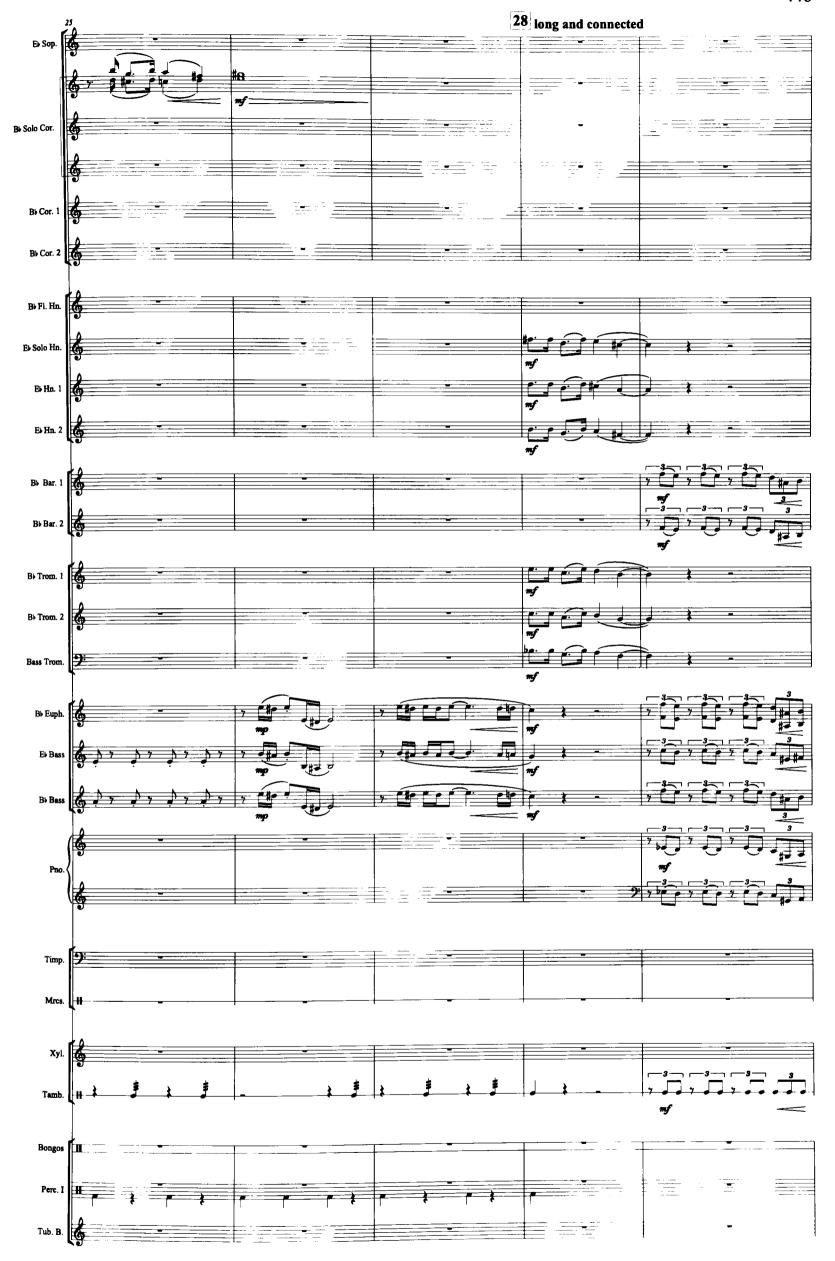






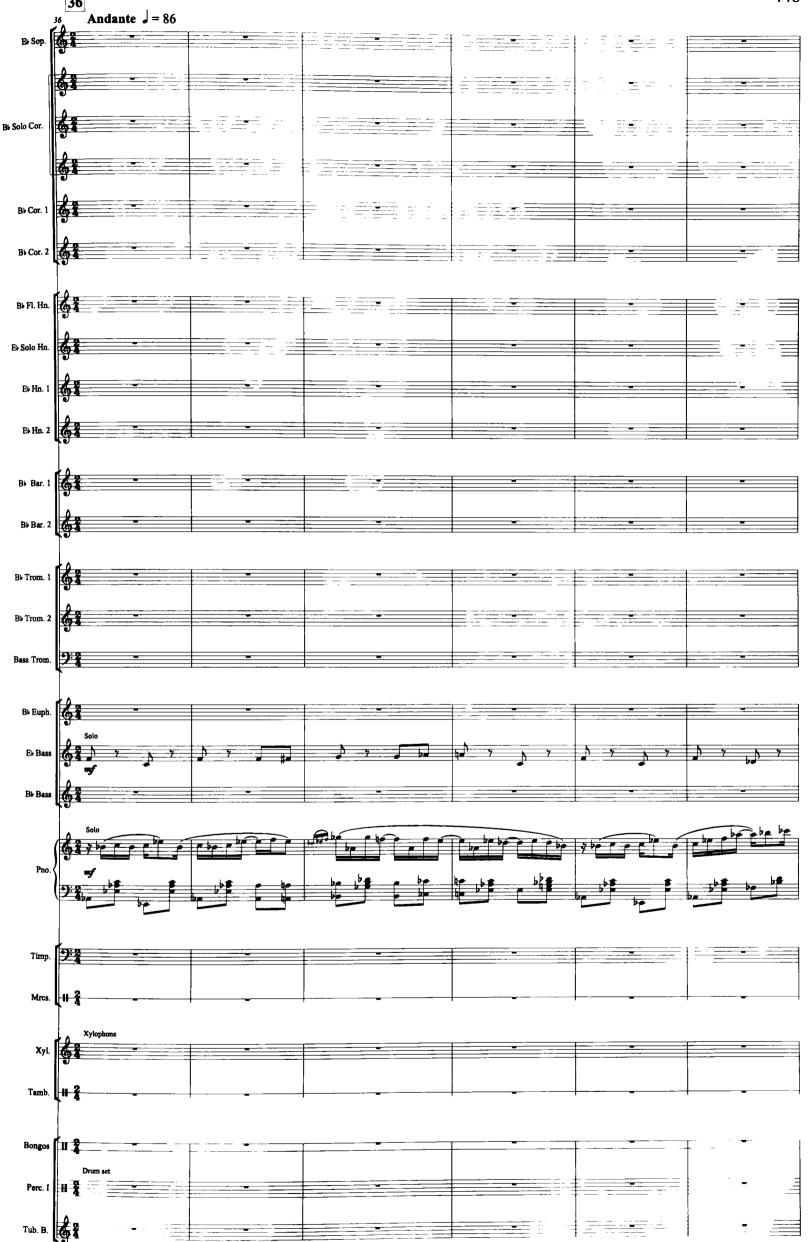




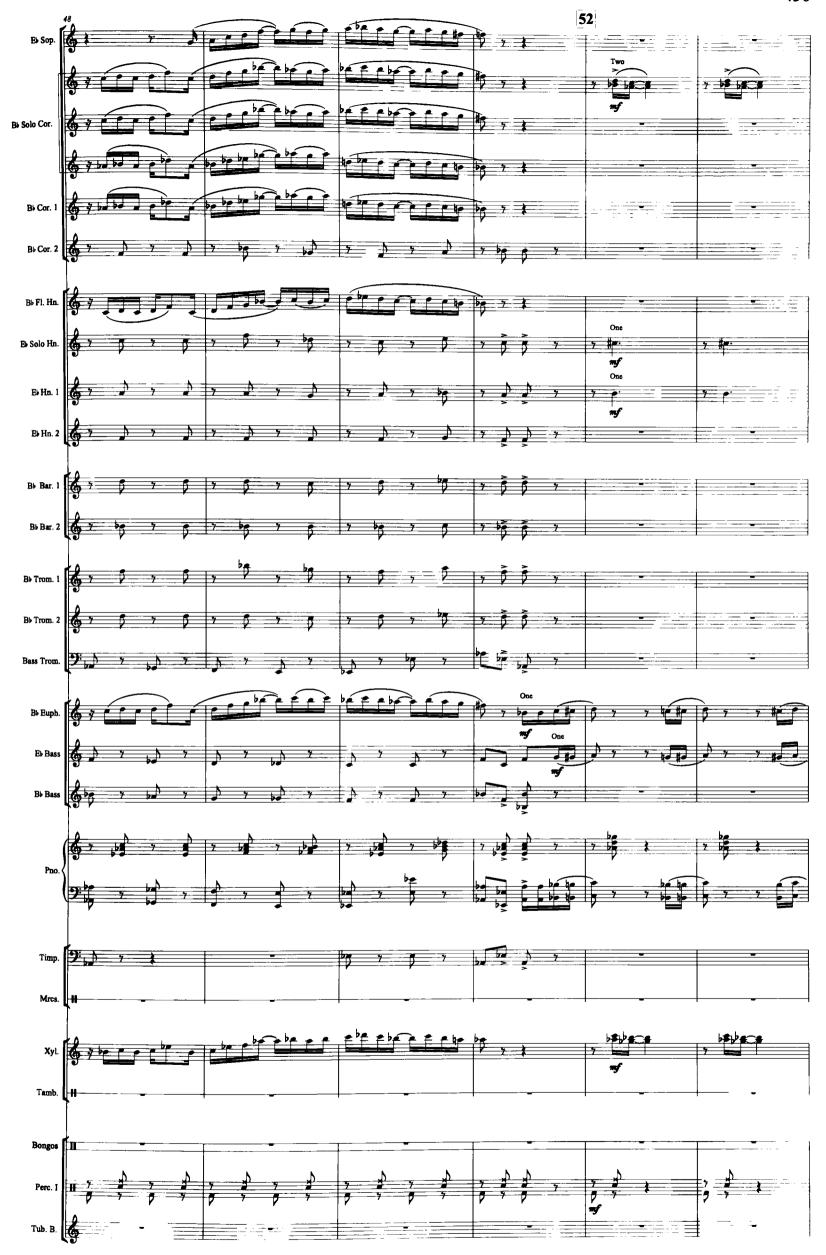




























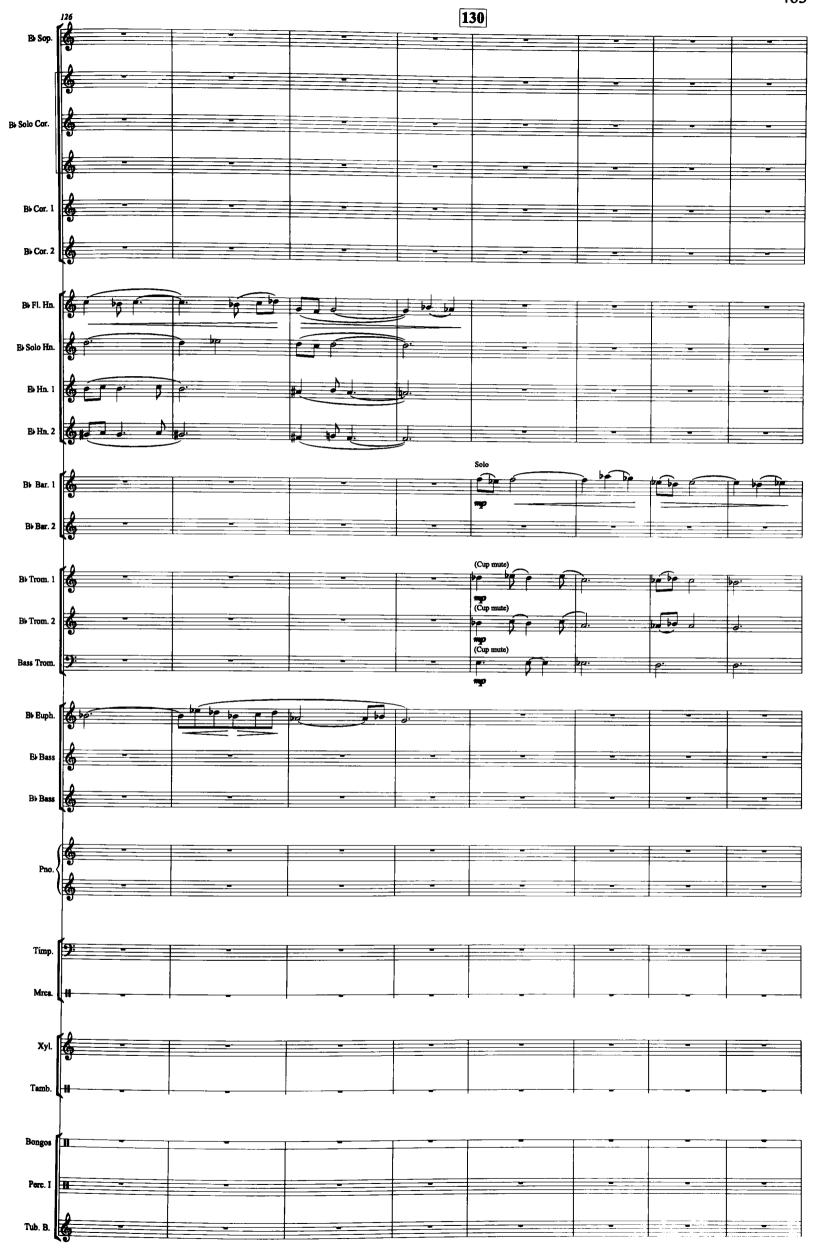












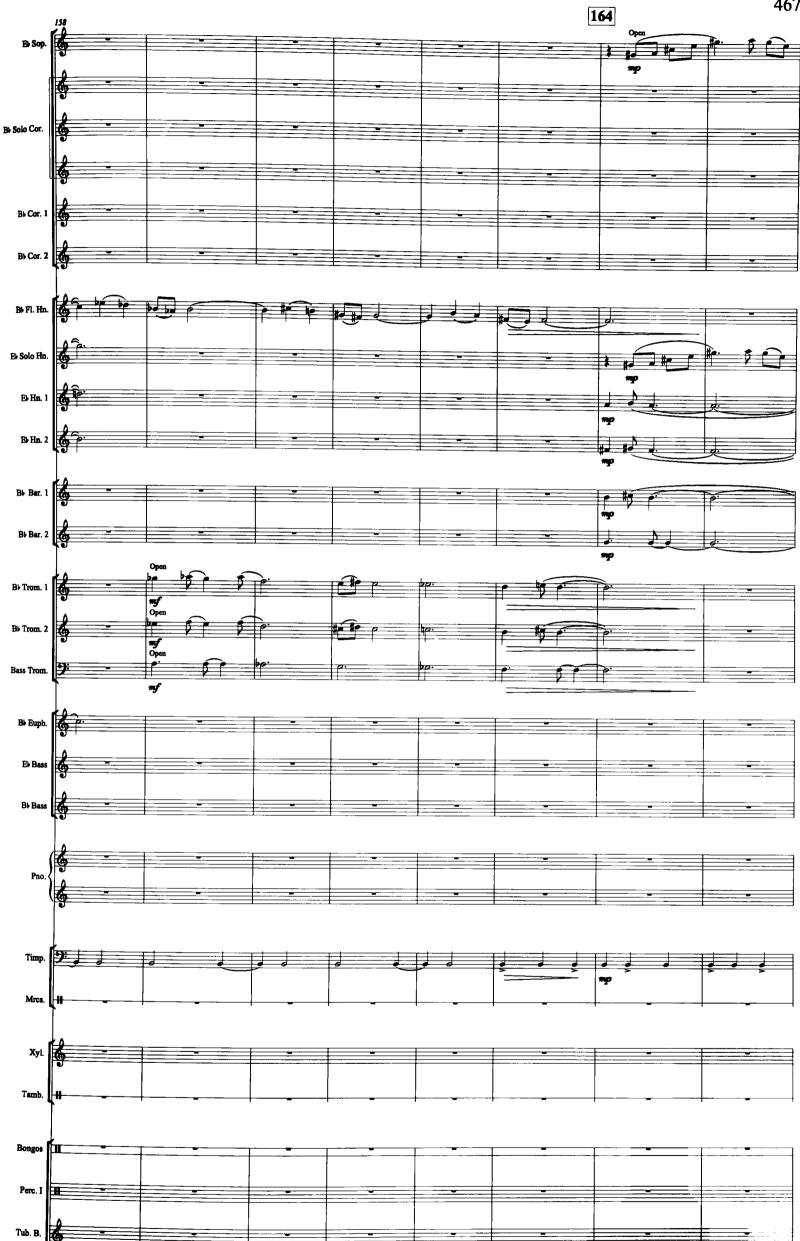




















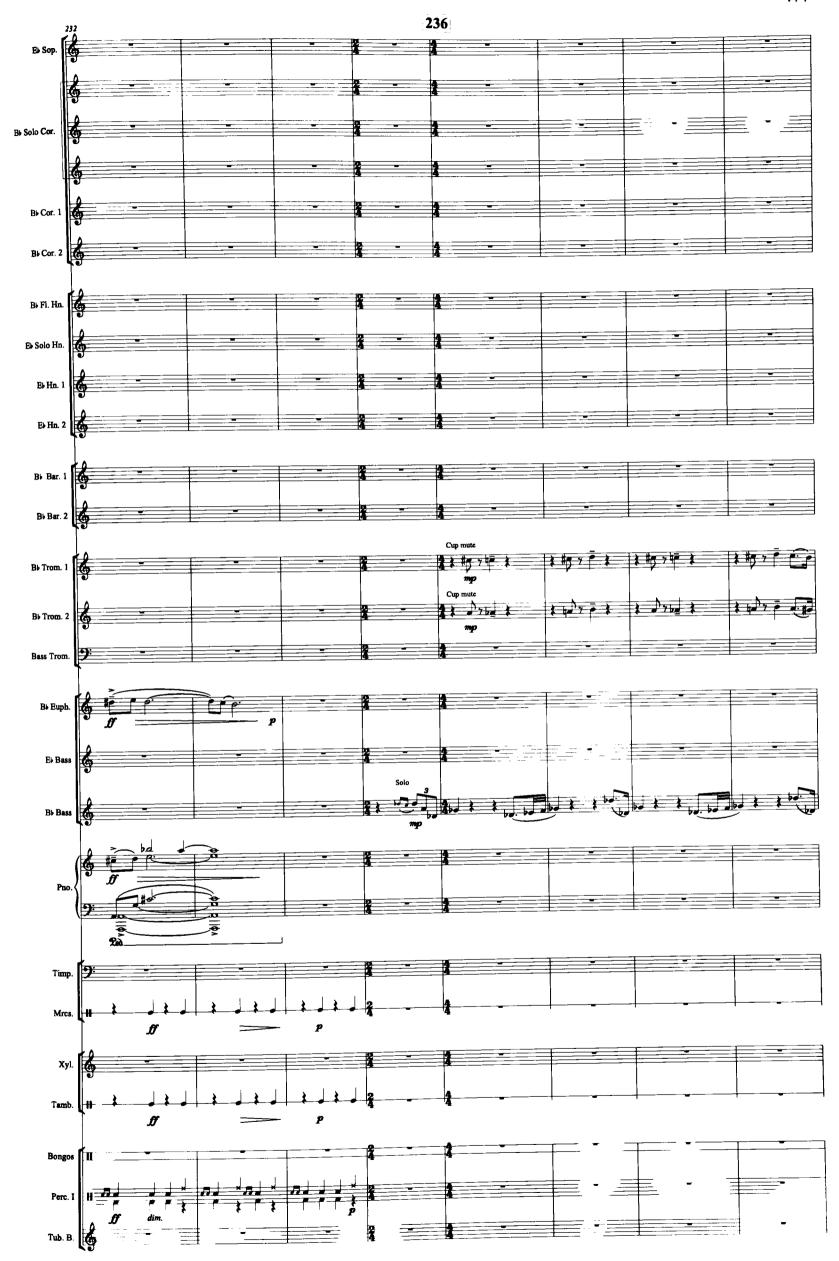




























































































































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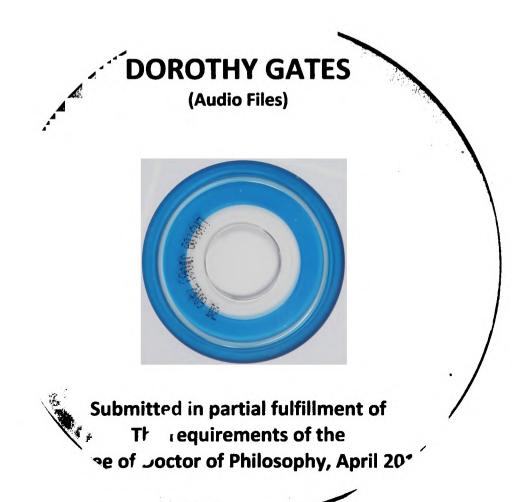
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# **Appendix 1**

## **CD Recordings**

1.	Another World	6:02	New York & New Jersey Professionals
2.	Норе	13:44	New York Staff Band
3.	Soul Origin	7:42	Midi
4.	Unseen Things	13:83	White House String Orchestra
			New York Professionals
			Joseph Turrin
			Debbie Bearchell & Christine Howlett
5.	Soul Reflections	10:65	Midi



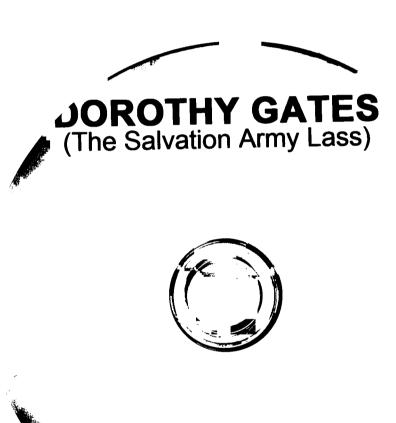
## **Appendix 2**

### **DVD**

The Salvation Army Lass

17:29

Midi/dvd



Submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements of the se of Doctor of Philosophy, April 2011